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A Monthly Newspaper published in the interests of the Berry Growers, Deciduous, Citrus, Dried and Canned Fruitgrowers, and Market Gardeners.

— by the —

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MELBOURNE.

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## EDITORIAL

THE 1937 FRUIT SEASON has opened, and the hope, which the poet says "springs eternal in the human breast" is certainly present that this season will prove better than the last—and it must be said, taking all things into consideration, that a season of reasonable success is anticipated.

The improvement in general economic conditions warrants that the price for fruit will be on the up grade and more stable.

Producers of canning and dried fruits have already achieved a substantial measure of market stability through their established organisations, while as regards Apples and Pears the continued success of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council is a matter for congratulation.

Apples and Pears are produced for export in all the States under widely differing conditions, making it by no means easy to reconcile State differences. These conditions differ from, say, the production of dried fruits and canning fruits which are produced in relatively limited areas.

However, the "almost impossible" has been achieved, as is evidenced by the fact that all the States now voluntarily agree to accept their defined quota for the known limitation of the British market for Apples and further success has been achieved in coming to an agreement with New Zealand as to the proportion which the Commonwealth will share with the Dominion in the U.K. market.

The effectiveness of the freight arrangements are further to be seen in the manner in which the Council arranges for ships to be filled at the various ports, thus ensuring that holds are completely filled, thus enabling the collecting of the freight rebate where shipping conditions are completely fulfilled.

The elimination of "plain grade" was agreed to, also the restriction of

certain Apple varieties, and now, commencing with the 1937 season, certain unwanted varieties of Pears have been removed from the export list.

Packing and grading have been greatly improved, and scores of technical points have been effectively covered to enable the export business to be conducted with reasonable smoothness.

There are many matters still awaiting attention, and it can safely be said that, with the confidence now established, these will receive the same effective attention in line with previous achievements.

The subject of freight reduction is one which has never ceased to have paramount attention, and this ever springing hope is again expressed that the Council's efforts will be successful, which in turn will be for the benefit not only of the producers, but of the shipping companies themselves.

Fruit has a freight rate higher than any other in relation to realisation values. Speaking in round terms the freight on butter and eggs is under 9 per cent. of the London realisation value, but with Apples the freight is around 50 per cent. of the London realisation value. Just how long can the industry stand these high rates of freight? Furthermore it cannot be denied but that the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council has made a real contribution in bringing in more effective presentation and organisation of the fruit for export and in providing orderliness into the business which previously was lacking.

### The Australian Market.

Now, while this valuable work has been attended to on behalf of the export trade, it has been borne in upon all associated with the Apple and Pear industry that the problems on the Australian market must be coped with. Pressure was brought on the

Council to give leadership to the question of the better organisation of the distribution of fruit retained for sale in Australia. Once again the Council has risen to its responsibility and has provided the required leadership. A method has been devised for linking up all the present organisations in Australia with two major objectives:—

1. Educational publicity to increase the sale of Apples and Pears to citizens of the Commonwealth.
2. To bring about more orderly delivery of the fruit, particularly in the three principal mainland markets of Sydney, Brisbane, and Melbourne.

The second objective is one which at the moment is the subject of much consideration in order to devise the most effective programme, but the first-mentioned objective, that of educational publicity to increase fruit consumption, can only have the full-hearted support of all right thinking and far-seeing producers and distributors.

At the present time a method is under consideration by which all producers may share equally in providing funds for this educational publicity. In consuming an additional quantity of between one and two million bushels of Apples in Australia, not only would the public—particularly the rising generation—greatly benefit, but the producers would be relieved of a heavy load, and this would be a wonderful method of assisting national stability.

The hope is expressed—that eternal hope to which reference was made in the opening paragraph—that the Government will give heed to the expressed desires of this efficient and fully representative organisation.

Among other things it should be noted that the extra quantity which it is desired to sell in Australia is equivalent to the quantity which previously went to the European Continent, which market has been lost because of Governmental policy and secondly that the value of publicity

has been so abundantly demonstrated that the success of the proposed Apple publicity campaign is already assured.

The fruit industry deserves well of the public, and it is certain that those engaged in the industry may be relied upon as producers and citizens to continue to render to the full the services necessary to build a healthy nation and fulfil their obligations as an integral part of our national structure.

### Trade with East Indies.

A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT has recently been issued by Mr. C. E. Critchley, Australian Trade Commissioner in the Dutch West Indies. In his report, Mr. Critchley does not see any great prospect under existing conditions of an enlargement of the trade through an increase in consumption of imported fruit generally.

The strengthening of distributing facilities and co-operation of importers and exporters would be a decided advantage to the trade. A small increase in consumption is always obtained by the normal growth in population, and in the East Indies, owing to the fact of a reduction in earnings, many Europeans spend a long period in Dutch East Indies.

Mr. Critchley goes on to say that to regain her lost trade, Australia must find more efficient means of production and marketing, and grading and packing must be standardised. Prices must be the same as competitors, and in some instances they must be lower—where preference is given to certain brand of fruit, such as "Sunkist" Oranges.

Buyers will be more favorably inclined to Australian fruit when they can depend on the quality and standard, the count of Apples and the correct weight. Another benefit to the Australian trade would be the stopping of the system of sending consignments indiscriminately.

## CONTENTS

### Illustrations.

Packham's Triumph Pears in Orchard of Mr. C. J. Nash ..	5
Home of Mr. Geo. Clarke, Senr., Red Hill ..	9
Packing Export Pears at Shepparton, Vic. ....	11
Apples Packed Ready for Export Irrigation Channel in the Shepparton Area, Goulburn Valley ..	13
Cool Store at Blackburn, Vic. ..	23
Home and Garden of Mr. S. Towers, Mooroopna, Vic. ....	25

Halo Blight in Beans (2 illus.) ..	29, 30
Mr. S. G. Pogson ..	37

### Subjects.

Australian Apple and Pear Export Council ..	8
Australian Apple Season, 1936 ..	7
Cincturing the Zante Currant ..	cover III.
Citrus News and Notes ..	15, 16
Crop Reports ..	9, 33
Dried Fruits News and Notes ..	27
Editorial ..	3

Export and Commercial News ..	34-38
Firms in the Fruit Trade ..	37
Fruitgrowing in Sth. Africa and Argentina ..	4
Fruit Prices in the Sydney Market ..	34-36
Letters to the Editor ..	25, 26
Market Grower, The ..	29, 30
Market Notes and Prices ..	38
Mid Murray Notes ..	21, 22
Motor Section ..	31
National Apple Week in U.S.A. ..	6
New Zealand News and Notes ..	32

Obituary ..	4
Pig Notes ..	cover III.
Poultry Notes ..	cover II.
Queensland Fruit Crops ..	28
Spraying for Scale Control ..	5
Stone Fruit for Queensland ..	10
Superficial Scald in Granny Smith Apples ..	17, 18
Tasmania ..	24, 33
Value of Fruit ..	cover IV.
Victorian Fruit Export ..	11-14
Victorian News and Notes ..	23, 24



# Fruitgrowing in South Africa and Argentina

S. AFRICA NOT LIKELY TO BE A BIG COMPETITOR WITH AUSTRALIA IN APPLES FOR U.K., BUT LARGE COMPETITIVE CROPS EXPECTED FROM ARGENTINE.

Views of Mr. W. J. Spafford, S.A. Director of Agriculture.

STATEMENTS CIRCULATED as to heavy Apple plantings in S. Africa and the possibility of big competition with Australia are not confirmed by the Director of Agriculture for S. Australia (Mr. W. J. Spafford), who recently visited both countries. Argentina on the other hand was indeed a potential big and powerful competitor of Australia in Apples.

In reply to questions, Mr. Spafford writes:

"The statistics available in connection with the Extension of the Apple tree plantings in South Africa are not very enlightening, because they do not appear to be kept up to date. Although we have access to the official Year Book of the Union of South Africa for 1934-35, the fig-

ures for Apple trees are the same as shown for several years past, the most recent figures being for 1930-31.

Apple-growing in South Africa.			
Season.	No. of Apple Trees in all districts.	Apples No.	Exported. Tons.
1911 . . . . .	1,429,858	—	—
1918 . . . . .	2,171,336	—	—
1921 . . . . .	2,471,090	—	—
1924 . . . . .	2,706,570	—	—
1925 . . . . .	2,976,450	—	—
1926 . . . . .	2,438,240*	—	—
1929-30 . . . . .	—	456	—
1930-31 . . . . .	2,464,370*	1,551	—
1931-32 . . . . .	—	1,878	—
1932-33 . . . . .	—	3,160	—
1933-34 . . . . .	—	5,265	—
1934-35 . . . . .	—	4,262	—

\* Trees the produce of which is grown for sale.

Even though these figures are incomplete, they are sufficient to show that there has not been a great extension in recent years of the South African Apple-growing industry.

Continuing, Mr. Spafford states that though his visit to South Africa was short, he cannot see that there is any chance of South Africa ever becoming a very strong competitor of Australia, as an exporter of Apples, and he believes that a glance at the map of Africa confirms this idea. Good Apples are grown in cool-temperate climates throughout the world, and the southernmost extremity of South Africa only reaches to about Lat. 35 deg. South, and the area of country between Lat. 35 deg. and Lat. 30 deg. is very limited indeed. Not only is the area limited, but much of it is rather poor from an agricultural point of view. Within this area there are still some possibilities for extension of soft fruits, and for wine Grapes, but not a great deal of really good Apple country.

## Argentine Big Competitor.

With regard to Argentina, however, Mr. Spafford expresses the view that that country would be in the position in the near future to flood the Euro-

pean market with Apples and Pears maturing at the same time as they do in Australia.

Commencing 14 years ago, and continuing for 10 years, Argentina imported from Australia 30,000 Apple trees a year. By the end of the period she had big nurseries going, and continued planting, and when he was there in 1935, Argentina had a large area in course of preparation for that season's planting. It is understood that last year another 30,000 Apple trees went from Australia to Argentina.

"In Rio Negro irrigation area," concludes Mr. Spafford, "we saw some Apple orchards with crops estimated to produce up to 30 cases of export Apples per tree throughout the orchards. On the Rio Negro there is little more than 100,000 acres under irrigation, only some of which is used for Apples, and the official estimate of the area on this one river suitable for irrigation is 1,000,000 acres, and the Rio Negro is only one of several permanent rivers running through some what similar conditions."

## VOLUNTARY AGREEMENTS.

### Pending Referendum on Section 92.

#### All Producing States Sign.

In order to prepare for the orderly marketing of the 1937 dried fruits crop, the three large producing States, South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales have voluntarily agreed to follow the usual procedure regarding domestic and export quotas which obtained before the decision of the Privy Council nullified the Commonwealth Government's control.

S.A. and N.S.W. growers and related organisations immediately agreed to adopt the proposals to continue the previous arrangements, but in Victoria a special Bill had to be put through to enable the Victorian Board to enter into voluntary agreements. This was passed on December 10, and practically a unanimous response has now been received from all three States.

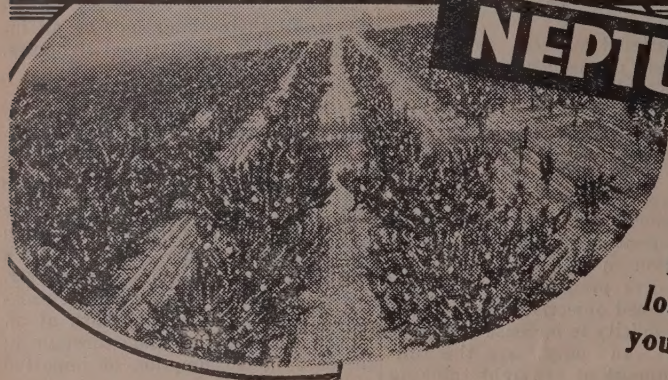
These voluntary agreements provide for the various Dried Fruits Boards to co-operate in observing the required quotas and to make such adjustments as shall be necessary pending the result of the referendum.

## OBITUARY.

Mr. C. U. B. Gurnett, who was the first Secretary of the N.S.W. Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries, died at the end of November, after a long illness. He was 54 years of age. Mr. Gurnett performed valued services in his capacity as Secretary of the N.S.W. Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries. In his earlier career he was advertising manager of the "Evening News," Sydney, and had also acted as publicity officer of the City Council Electricity Department and Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. He had practised, privately, as a chartered secretary, and was Secretary of the Institute of Sales and Business Management. Secretary of the Royal Chartered Institute of Secretaries, and a Director of the Australian Gas Light Company. He was Past-President of Rotary, and has been for 10 years President of the N.S.W. Lacrosse Association. In his earlier years the late Mr. Gurnett was an international lacross player.

In the December crop the prospects for Pears in Tasmania have been reduced to below average.

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NEPTUNE WHITE SPRAYING OIL (Summer)  
GENUINE BLACK LEAF 40

Ask our local agent for a copy of our hand-book, "Clean Fruit" which gives a wealth of information on all spraying matters.

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# PRAYING FOR SCALE CONTROL

## Citrus White Wax Scale

### Brown Olive Scale, etc.

THE following history and control measures are contributed by officers of the Entomological Branch of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture and are reproduced by courtesy of "The Agricultural Gazette."

#### Citrus White Wax Scale.

(Ceroplastes Destructor.)

The white wax scale of citrus orchards is an introduced African insect which also infests many other trees and shrubs, including Persimmons, Guavas, native "blackthorn," Pittosporum, Lillipillies, Gardenias, etc.

#### Life History.

The young scales or larvae are minute, six-legged, reddish insects and are able to crawl actively. They emerge from the eggs mainly from December to February, and at first, usually settle along the mid-ribs and veins of the leaves.

Each young scale secretes a small white waxy pad on the upper surface of its body and a series of small white waxy rays around the margins. These young scales later crawl back to the twigs and branches and settle here permanently. They increase in size, secrete wax more freely, and finally, about ten months later, when fully-grown, lay minute reddish eggs, the average number laid by an individual female being about 3,000.

The body of the adult female beneath the waxy covering is shiny, and light red to dark brown in color. The body at the posterior end is produced into a tail or caudal process which lies flat upon the surface of the bark.

These scales, which feed by sucking the sap, excrete quantities of "honeydew," and a sooty-mould or fungus frequently develops on the foliage, fruit or twigs upon which this falls.

#### Control.

White wax scale on citrus trees can be controlled with a soda spray made as follows:—

- (1) 1½ lb. fresh washing soda dissolved in 4 gals. of water (15 lb. to 40 gals.); or,
- (2) 9 oz. soda ash dissolved in 4 (5½ lb. to 40 gals.).

It is best to dissolve the soda first in a small quantity of hot water and add it to the remainder of the water.

The spray should be applied in March, preferably late in that month. Growers are reminded that if the spray is applied too early a re-infestation of the trees is likely to occur, as the young emerge irregularly from beneath the bodies of the female scales.

#### Combined Spray for Citrus Trees.

Where citrus trees are infested with red scale (*Chrysomphalus aurantii*) as well as wax scales, a combined spray of miscible white oil and soda may be used, the strength being 15 lb. fresh washing soda or 5½ lb. soda ash, 1 gallon miscible white oil and 40 gallons water. In mixing the combined spray, the oil should be thoroughly emulsified, first with at least an equal quantity of water, and this then slowly added and stirred into the remainder of the water, in which the soda has previously been dissolved.

Late applications of oil to citrus trees should be avoided, as they are likely to cause a reduction of the crop the following season. It is inadvisable to spray with the combined oil and soda spray (or oil alone) during the heat of the day in very hot, sunny weather. Considerable damage may result from spraying trees when they are in poor condition.

#### Brown Scale.

(Saissetia oleæ.)

The brown scale, or brown olive scale as it is frequently called, occurs over the greater part of New South Wales. Although it is chiefly a pest of citrus, it also occurs on Passion vines, Olives, and on many different kinds of garden shrubs.



Packhams Triumph Pears at the sorting table in the orchard of Mr. C. J. Nash, "Floresco," Shepparton, Vic.

The adult female insects are brownish-black in color, nearly hemispherical in shape, and measure between three-sixteenths and one-eighth of an inch in diameter. The males, which are narrow, flat insects, are much smaller than the females, and are not readily observed.

Although the scales may be found on the fruit and leaves, the twigs of the host plants are preferred. The insects damage the tree by sucking up the sap, but injury also results from the sooty-mould which accompanies the scale. This is caused by the excretion of the scales of large quantities of "honey-dew." This falls upon the leaves and fruit and there forms a medium for the growth of the sooty-mould fungus, thus causing the smutting of the leaves and fruit and greatly depreciating its market value.

#### Life History.

The females begin to lay eggs in from eight to ten months from the time they hatch. Between 1,500 and 2,000 eggs are laid by a single female beneath the scale. The young, on hatching remain beneath the parent scale for a day or two, and then crawl actively about before finally settling permanently. The first moult of the female occurs from a month to six weeks after birth, and the second (bringing it to the adult age) from two and a half to three months after birth. The male passes through an additional stage—the pupal stage, and, unlike the female, which remains attached to the twig throughout life, emerges from the scale as a minute two-winged insect. As the egg-laying period extends over several months, all stages of the insect

may be found at nearly any time of the year.

#### Control.

Fumigation with hydrocyanic acid gas or spraying with miscible oil, as recommended for the control of red scale, will control this pest. If spraying is undertaken, 1 gallon of oil should be diluted in 40 gallons of water. It is important that emulsification should be complete, otherwise the trees may be injured. Trees in a weak or drought-stricken condition are very susceptible to spray injury.

As the scale is most easily killed when the majority of the insects are in the young stage, a careful watch should be kept to determine when this condition occurs, so that the treatment of the trees may then be undertaken.

In some localities, various species of small wasp parasites destroy sufficient of the scales to make artificial control measures unnecessary.

#### BLACK SPOT CONTROL.

In those districts now ready for the second spraying, Bordeaux is recommended in a mixture of 6:4:80, plus half per cent. of oil, for Black Spot control on Oranges.

The stain of Bordeaux mixture is easily removable from the mature fruit. Where the grower has not access to a washing plant, the fruit should be treated with a weak solution (½ per cent.) of hydrochloric acid in water, which readily dissolves the deposit.

# Protect Your Crops From Codlin Moth

## Vallo Codlin Moth Tree Bands

Certain Death to all Grubs, Weevils, etc.  
— that attack Fruit Trees —

- Band your trees in November and there is no necessity to inspect or remove them until the following July

- Vallo Bands are definitely effective—As many as 300 dead grubs have been counted from only one bandage

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## FRUIT FLY CONTROL.

Regulations Regarding Consignments in N.S.W.

The Minister of Agriculture (Hon. Hugh Main, M.L.A.) invites attention to the fact that during the months of October to March inclusive, fruit may not be consigned to or brought into certain districts unless a fruit inspector has certified that it is free from infection by Fruit Fly or a declaration to that effect is furnished by the consignor. In addition the case must be marked with the name and address of the person, firm, or company by whom it was packed.

The districts to which this restriction applies are the land districts of Young, Bathurst, Orange, and Molong, and the districts surrounding Batlow, Armidale, Tamworth, Walcha and Glen Innes.

Teacher: "Now who can give me a sentence with the word 'diadem' in it?"

Tommy: "People who cross the road carelessly diadem sight quicker than people who stop, look and listen."

## RUST MITE OF CITRUS TREES.

Prevention of Damage.

In certain parts of the coast of New South Wales the rust or silver mite (*Phyllocoptes oleivorus*) may cause severe injury to citrus fruits, says the "N.S.W. Agricultural Notes."

The minute mites attack the surface of the fruit, leaves and bark, producing a rust-like discoloration on the surface of the Oranges and a silvery condition on the skin of Lemons. This is due in each case to the mites destroying the epidermal cells, thus causing the surface to harden. The damage to the bark is not serious, but that on the fruit reduces its value or renders it unmarketable.

The damage to the fruit commences when the young fruit is about a half to one inch in diameter, and it is at this time that the spray for control should be applied.

In districts where the mites were in evidence last season the trees should be sprayed thoroughly with lime-sulphur at a dilution of 1 gallon to 50 gallons of water.

## National Apple Week in U.S.A.

Huge Campaign to Increase the Consumption of Apples.

NATIONAL APPLE WEEK was celebrated in U.S.A. from October 31 to November 6, 1936, under the auspices of the International Apple Association, to induce greater consumption of Apples.

Throughout Apple Week, steamship lines and railway companies made generous displays, schools devoted time to the study of Apples—clubs, hotels, restaurants, theatres, moving picture organisations, showed their interest and strongly featured Apples; banks and stores of every description joined in making attractive displays and in advertising.

Chambers of Commerce, fraternal associations and other organisations devoted much time and effort to the observance of Apple Week.

Mayors of cities and Governors of States indicated their interest by means of proclamations and even the President of U.S.A. showed his interest by actual participation. The press provided generous space and much valuable matter went across the radio.

Apple Week was stimulated by giving of prizes as follows:—In schools for the best essays on Apples and their use or some related theme; in domestic classes for the best Apple pie, Apple sauce, cake or any article made from Apples, with cooking demonstrations; essays on the history of the Apple or interesting facts pertaining to its culture and its use. Apples were also distributed to orphanages, veterans' homes and schools.

:: :: ::

The magnitude of this effort will be realised when it is pointed out that this is a national event and conducted throughout the United States with its 125 million population. A huge amount of organising was necessary and the co-operation of all classes of the community was highly esteemed.

The State of Washington, which is the biggest producer of boxed Apples and incidentally, the biggest competitor of Australia on British markets, has shown keen interest. They realise that whereas their State crop was practically the same as last year, the production throughout U.S.A. is 29 per cent. less than last season and they are looking for largely increased consumption within the United States.

:: :: ::

Australia and New Zealand growers welcome this movement, knowing that it is for the benefit of the general public in U.S.A. to consume more Apples; while at the same time the supplying to the British markets with their normal requirements will be of immense value to all concerned.

Customer: "Why do you wear rubber gloves when cutting hair?"

Barber: "For the purpose of keeping our celebrated hair restorer from causing hair to grow on my hands."

"Ma, you know the old vase you said has been handed down from generation to generation?"

"Yes, son."

"Well, this generation dropped it."

## Classified Advertisements

WANTED TO BUY.—Ellis Fruit Grader, good condition, cheap.—"Orchardist," Beaconsfield Upper, Vic.

GENTLEMAN, married, age 38 years, 20 years' experience in all branches of the fruit industry, desires a position as manager.—S.P.C., c/o "Fruit World," Box 1944, G.P.O., Melbourne.

## "A TRULY WONDERFUL SPRAY"

*Is the consensus of opinion of leading Orchardists throughout the Commonwealth*

Bickford's "AERO" brand Arsenate of Lead has for many years been used by leading Orchardists all over Australia, and their verdict is unanimous that, in "AERO" brand Arsenate of Lead, they have found the ideal spray to combat the codlin moth.

These growers agree that "AERO" brand is the finest Arsenate of Lead they have ever used, for it embraces all the desirable qualities necessary to make an effective spray.

The exceeding fineness and lightness in texture, its high covering and killing power, and the ease in which it is mixed in the spray tank, where it suspends perfectly, all go to prove that in "AERO" brand Arsenate of Lead growers have a spray that will protect the orchard to the fullest degree.

Although "AERO" brand Arsenate of Lead is of such superfine quality the price is competitive.

Interested growers may obtain full particulars from the Manufacturers, or from any of the Interstate Agents listed below.



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Buzacott (Queensland) Ltd.,  
443 Adelaide Street, Brisbane.

TASMANIA (Northern Districts)—  
Gardner & McKenzie Pty. Ltd.,  
64 Cameron Street, Launceston.  
TASMANIA (Southern Districts)—  
Port Ruen Fruitgrowers' Co-op.  
Association Ltd.,  
Davey Street, Hobart.

VICTORIA—  
Ramsay & Treganowan Ltd.,  
469-477 Latrobe Street, Melbourne.  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—  
Felton, Grimwade & Bickford Ltd.,  
397 Murray Street, Perth.



# The 1936 Australian Apple Season

EXTRA HEAVY SUPPLIES OF APPLES FROM N. AMERICA  
AND ENLARGED QUANTITIES FROM AUSTRALIA, N.Z.  
AND STH. AFRICA.

STH. AFRICA ALSO SENT EXTRA GRAPES, PEARS, PLUMS & PEACHES.

Interesting Survey by Geo. Monro Ltd., London.

A REVIEW of the Australian Apple season in U.K. in 1936 is contained in an interesting report by Messrs. Geo. Monro Ltd., of Covent Garden, London, made available by courtesy of their Australian agent, Major H. Dakin, of Sydney.

The report is as follows:—

Broadly speaking, we are afraid that it was one that has given little satisfaction to anybody concerned, with perhaps the exception of the consuming public, who were able to purchase fruit much cheaper than in 1935. For the grower, the low prices ruling throughout most of the season must have proved very disheartening. These low prices are also most unsatisfactory to distributors here who are selling on a commission basis, as their earnings are greatly reduced, whereas their overhead expenses remain unchanged.

Various factors were responsible for the low prices. In the first place the death of King George curtailed entertainment, and had a depressing effect on trade. The winter here was long drawn out, and the spring exceptionally cold; in fact, it was not until we were well into June that we experienced any really warm days. Even then, the fine spell was only short one, and the summer has been awfully wet with temperatures well below the average. Supplies of fruit generally were considerably in excess in 1935.

## Excess Supplies of Apples.

Exports of Apples from Canada and U.S.A. to the United Kingdom during the 1935/6 season were nearly 50 per cent. greater than those of the previous season. The comparative figures are:—

	Bushels.
1935/6 .....	12,302,000
1934/5 .....	8,458,000
Increase .....	3,844,000

In direct competition with Australian fruit during the month of April, May and June, 466,000 bushels arrived from U.S.A., an increase of 17,000 bushels over 1935. This figure does not take into consideration heavy stocks of American Apples which had been held here in cold store.

At the same time imports of Apples from South Africa totalled 260,000 bushels as compared with 69,000 in the corresponding months of 1935: an increase of 191,000 bushels.

In addition, shipments of Australian Apples to the United Kingdom were 406,000 greater than in 1935, and those from New Zealand increased by 223,000. So that, for the season we have a total increase of 1,077,000 bushels from all sources.

## Grapes and Stone fruits from Sth. Africa.

The position was also adversely affected by the greater volume of other deciduous fruits from South Africa. The months of March to June, 51,000 packages of Grapes, Pears, Plums, and Peaches were received; an increase of 315,000 over the corresponding period of 1935. During the whole of the South African deciduous season, 4,288,000 packages were landed here; an increase of 1,018,000, or 24 per cent., in comparison with shipments in the previous season.

## The English soft fruit

crop was one of the heaviest for many years. Strawberries were very plentiful, and while these are on the market trade for all other fruit is practically dead: in particular, people do not want Apples. Cherries were a record crop, and the wet season seemed to suit Raspberries, so that we had an abundance of these in addition to other fruit such as Red and Black Currants and Gooseberries.

## Continental Fruit Diverted to U.K.

At the same time, owing to the difficulties in Europe, fruit which in former years has been disposed of on the Continent, could not be sold there and was dumped into England. So that we had what were really new districts, such as Hungary and Bulgaria, sending us heavy supplies of Apricots, Peaches, Plums, and Grapes. Much of this fruit in the past has been marketed in Germany and France. The extreme difficulty of getting money out of the former country was the principal reason for the fruit being sent to England instead. This same difficulty also accounted for the big falling off in shipments of Australian and New Zealand Apples to Germany, and the consequent diversion to the English market. In addition to quotas, the French Government has imposed other restrictions which make it practically impossible to get fruit into France. Even if, by roundabout means, an import license is obtained for a small quantity, the excessive duty makes the business hopeless.

Growers will realise that this tremendous increase in supplies, spread over a few months, could not be absorbed readily. It may not perhaps be appreciated overseas what effect

the death of King George had on trade here. During the period of court mourning (which extended until the end of July) there was absolutely no public or private entertaining of any description: consequently there was practically no demand for best fruit. Owing to the very unsettled state of affairs throughout Europe generally, and also to the weakness of their own financial position, Americans have not been over here this year in anything like their usual numbers. Therefore, the big hotels have used far less than their normal quantity of high-class fruit. The only hope was to increase the outlet amongst the working classes, and this could only be done by a substantial reduction in prices. Actually, at the peak of the Australian season, the problem of disposal became not one of price, but of inducing customers to purchase, irrespective of price. They simply could not dispose of the fruit no matter how cheap it was.

Early in the season reports from Australia indicated a serious shortage of Sturmers and late varieties, and, consequently, it was thought that prices for the latter part of the season would improve, especially as home-grown supplies were expected to be late as a result of the cold wet spring. Therefore, a great deal of fruit was cold-stored, in anticipation of a shortage during July and August. Although shipments arriving from Australia during July were certainly less than usual, they were by no means as light as had been generally expected, and the reduction was partially offset by a considerable increase in July arrivals from New Zealand, which were more than double those of July, 1935. Contrary to expectations home-grown Apples were ready for market at their normal time, and in far greater volume than last year. Although prices improved a little during the second half of July, the increase was by no means sensational, and proved only temporary. From all reports much of the fruit ex cold store was eventually sold at prices which were lower than when it was placed into store. With the exception of a few hundred cases placed in cold store ex S.S. "Clan Macarthur," we considered it in the best interests of the growers to sell all shipments as they arrived.

Except for one or two shipments such as the "Raranga" and "Tudor Star" nearly all varieties arrived in satisfactory condition. The quality of the Tasmanian Sturmers was by no means as good as in former years, and the fruit did not compare at all favorably with Sturmers from other States. Granny Smiths were also disappointing, as many arrived in a colored condition. The trade wants this variety green, and will not look at it when colored.

The American type of case is becoming increasingly popular with the trade here; in fact, the dump case has gone right out of fashion and is not wanted.

Growers who have been progressive enough to adopt the American type have also made every effort to bring their grading and packing up to the highest possible standard. On the other hand it was found in a number of instances that growers still using the dump cases not only had not maintained the standard, but actually showed a falling off. As a consequence, a good deal of the fruit arrived bruised as a result of loose packing. In some instances Apples were so loosely packed that the cases did not contain more than 30 lbs. of fruit.

Once again we received consignments of varieties out of their season. For example, on the "Viking Star" which arrived here on June 22, included in the fruit from Tasmania were Cox's Orange Pippin and other early varieties. It is unreasonable to expect fruit to land here in good condition unless it is shipped at its proper time. We would impress on growers the importance of this.

## FRUIT TREES

All the Best Varieties in Apples, Plums, etc.

Strong, healthy, well-grown, true-to-name, free from insect pests. Suit all climatic conditions.

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DILUTION: 1 LB. - 50 GALLONS WATER.

It may be used in combination with most other Spraying materials if mixed according to directions. Vine growers may use it in combination with their usual Copper sprays in districts where Oidium is prevalent.

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# Australian Apple and Pear Export Council

## EXECUTIVE MEETING IN SYDNEY

Agreement with New Zealand — Pear Varieties for Export — Printed Fruit Wrappers Recommended — Freight Reductions Sought — Australian Market Committee Set Up and Educational Publicity Recommended.

A MEETING of the Executive of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council was held at the rooms of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of New South Wales, Sydney, from December 18 to 22, 1936.

There were present Messrs. J. B. Mills (President), L. S. Taylor, R. Thompson and R. W. Humphreys (Tasmania); H. J. Bishop and J. B. Randell (S.A.); H. W. Soothill and F. Simper (W.A.); G. W. Brown and F. Moore (Vic.); A. E. Herring and J. W. Mackenzie (N.S.W.); B. Flewell

Smith (Q'land), and R. E. Boardman, Secretary. Col. Herrod (Fruitgrowers' Federation, of N.S.W.), and Mr. K. Weeding (Victorian Fruit Marketing Association) attended during portion of the sessions.

### Pears for Export.

Correspondence was received from the Tasmanian State Fruit Board and various growers re Pear varieties for export, and it was finally decided:—

1. That with regard to Duchesse d'Angouleme, Beurre Britton, Easter Beurre, and Giblin's Seedling (already

permitted export to 1938 season), and Black Achan (permitted export in 1937), information to be submitted which would justify their continued export.

2. That B. de Capiaumont, Beurre Diel, and L'Inconnue be permitted export in the year 1937 only, and thereafter to be prohibited.

It was decided to request the Department of Commerce not to permit the export of Middleton Bergamot.

In reply to Mr. Thompson (Tas.), the Chairman stated that the varieties Black Achan and B. Clairgeau, which had been recommended for deletion after the 1937 season, would be reviewed at the next conference, and unless evidence were submitted for their retention, they could then be excluded.

Regarding Williams and Kieffer, these were already on the "2-year"

export list, and thus automatically come up for review.

### Printed Fruit Wrappers.

The Australian Overseas Trade Publicity Committee wrote emphasizing the importance of having the word "Australia" or a typically Australian design on Apple and Pear wrappers so that the fruit which was being advertised in U.K. could be identified. Under the present system of plain wrappers much of the value of the present publicity was being lost.

It was decided to approve of the proposal subject to satisfactory replies regarding costs, and to advise the State organisations when particulars as to prices were obtained.

### Agreement with New Zealand.

The Chairman reported that he and Mr. Humphreys had visited New Zealand on behalf of the Council. It was regretted that circumstances have prevented the attendance of Messrs. L. Taylor, G. W. Brown, or F. Moore. Details of the negotiations were given and it had been decided to continue on the present basis with regard to Apples for U.K., i.e., Australia to send 76½ per cent. of the agreed quota and N.Z. 23½ per cent. February shipments to be included in the quota.

In the discussion it was pointed out that on the basis of averages the N.Z. quota should be in future less than that at present operating.

The report was adopted and the delegates cordially thanked.

### Australian Market Committee.

Careful consideration was given to the proposals for setting up an Australian market committee and the framework of an organisation was decided upon, having in mind the probability of securing sufficient funds by way of a small but uniform levy for increasing the consumption of Apples and Pears in Australia by educational publicity. It was decided to request the following to form State Committees in this connection: Messrs. A. E. Herring (for N.S.W.), H. W. Soothill (W.A.), Brown and Moore (Vic.), J. B. Randell (S.A.), Taylor and Thompson (Tas.), B. Flewell-Smith (Qld.), with Messrs. Herring, Taylor and Moore as members of the Provisional Co-ordinating Committee for the Eastern States.

### Export Quotas.

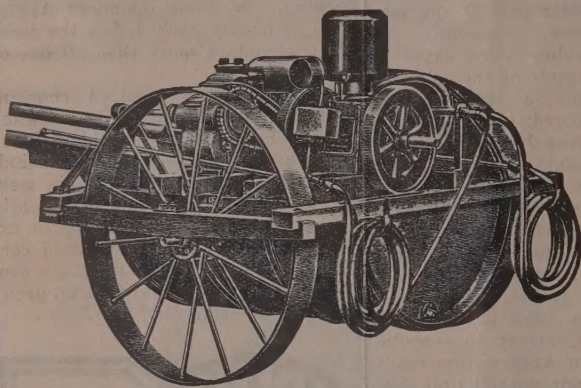
Details were arranged for the 1937 Apple and Pear export season, quotas for the several States in order of months. :: :: ::

### Freight Reduction Sought.

At the conclusion of the executive meeting, deputations waited on the O.S.R.A. and representatives of shipping companies trading with the East requesting certain improvements in ship transport and reductions in freight.

## Mitchell Spray Plant with 3 H.P. Lister Engine

A HIGH GRADE COMBINATION IMPOSSIBLE TO BEAT



**LISTER ENGINE** — The world's most reliable power. Totally enclosed. Dirt cannot harm it. Vertical cylinder.

**MYERS' TYPE PUMP** — Cylinders porcelain lined. Valves and seats rustless steel. Gears nickel steel, machine cut, hardened. Pressure constant.

**PRESSURE UNLOADER** — Automatically relieves pressure on engine and hoses when spray is closed.

**STRAINER**—Easily cleaned, as placed on top of vat—not inside it.

Easy terms. Write. Please mention this advt.

**MITCHELL AND CO. PTY. LTD.**

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Showroom: 596 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

In Preparing Your Bordeaux Sprays Use . . .

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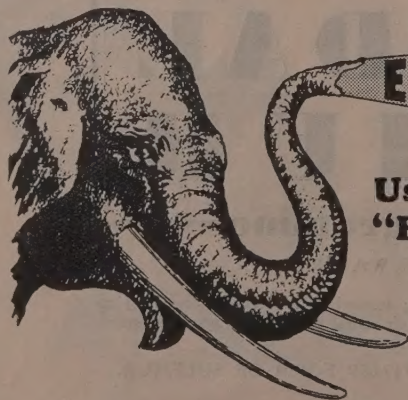
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GRADES—Mixed Crystals, Fines, Granulated (Snow), Packed in Suitable Containers for Growers' Requirements.

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Extract "BETTER FRUIT" U.S.A., February, 1934: "Idaho Spray Programme for Codlin Moth Control, 1934," by Dr. Claude Wakeland, Department of Entomology, University of Idaho. Experiments in the State for the past six years have shown that **LEAD ARSENATE** is the best, as well as the most economical insecticide that we have tested for Codlin Moth control. Entomologists are agreed that there is no substitute for Lead Arsenate that can be recommended to the public.

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N.E.W.—Producers' Distributing Society Ltd., Valentine and Quay Streets, Sydney.  
Qld.—Buzacott's Ltd., Adelaide Street, Brisbane.  
S.A.—Silbert, Sharp & Bishop Ltd., Rundle St. E., Adelaide.

W.A.—Westralian Farmers' Ltd., 565 Wellington St., Perth.  
Tas.—R. Nettlefold Pty., Hobart. Bell & Gerrard, Launceston. Cocker, Bell Pty., Devonport.  
N.Z.—Pizzey, McInnes Ltd., Box 1114, G.P.O., Auckland.

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Upon it !**

FRUIT GROWERS generally have come to depend on "Elephant" Brand Sprays. They find them absolutely reliable, efficient and of guaranteed quality.



# Crop Reports from Western Australia New Zealand and Queensland

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

### Apples Shaping for a Record Crop.

THE Chief State Supervising Officer, Mr. G. W. Wickens, advises as follows under date December 18.

I submit hereunder my estimate of the fruit crop in Western Australia for the coming season, and the actual production figures of 1935/36. The Apple trees have done what a few years ago would have been looked upon as impossible, this being the fourth year in succession that heavy crops have been secured, and each year has shown an increase on its predecessor, as follows:—

#### Production.

##### Cases.

1933/34 .. .	990,049
1934/35 .. .	1,228,300
1935/36 .. .	1,235,849
1936/37 .. .	1,386,000 (estimated)

You will note I estimate an increase this season of 150,000 cases over last year's total, and I feel confident this quantity is actually on the trees at the present time, but weather conditions between now and harvesting will, of course, be a big factor in the result. Should we experience favorable weather during January, February and March, i.e., not excessively hot and with some rain, the quantity I have estimated is on the conservative side.

One encouraging feature is the fact that the Apples are on the whole definitely from 1 in. to 1 1/2 in. greater in diameter at present than they were at this time last year.

Of the main commercial varieties, Dunns, Jonathans, Yates and Granites are heavier than last year; Cleos are lighter, but, nevertheless, are carrying quite good crops of fruit. Rokewood is definitely lighter and carrying only a fair to medium crop.

I estimate the Pear crop to be about the same as last year:—

##### Cases.

1935/36 .. .	113,450
1936/37 .. .	113,000 (estimated)

The stone fruit crop is heavier than last year:—

##### Cases.

Peaches:	
1935/36 .. .	63,280
1936/37 .. .	70,000 (estimated)

#### Apricots:

1935/36 .. .	62,088
1936/37 .. .	65,000 (estimated)

#### Plums:

1935/36 .. .	84,618
1936/37 .. .	100,000 (estimated)

Citrus trees have bloomed well, but it is too early in the season to make an estimate of the crop.

Vines which are from year to year the most uniform and regular fruit producers of the lot, are again carrying good to heavy crops, and this includes table Grapes, wine Grapes and Grapes for drying.

Later: Since the foregoing was written, good rains have fallen, it has been estimated by growers that the additional crop over last year may be in the vicinity of 250,000 bushels.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Mt. Barker (14/12/36): Mr. J. McN. Martin reports crops prospects as follows:—

Apples: Dunns, Jonathan and Yates, very heavy; Cleos., medium; Rokewood, medium to light; Granny Smith, heavy to very heavy.

These are the main export varieties; the other Apples grown here are of much less consequence, but almost all

other varieties are heavy, some very heavy, and the growers are having to put all the time they can find at thinning the fruit.

Last year was dry, and this winter the rainfall was short, but all fruit in this district is much larger and more forward, than this time last year.

Of course, in some orchards, the above list does not hold, but for the district as a whole it does, and we will have a bigger crop than last year.

As regards Pears, on the whole, they are below last year.

Regarding the rest of the State, I can only go on what Mr. Wickens told me last week, i.e., the crop is above last year, in fact, very heavy.

Some growers from the south-west told me of isolated patches that are light, but the growers as a whole say a very heavy crop.

## N.Z. FRUIT CROP PROSPECTS.

THE Director of the N.Z. Horticultural Division, Mr. J. A. Campbell, reports N.Z. crop prospects as follows under date December 7, 1936:—

Auckland.—Apples: Light to good. Lemons: Good promise. Oranges: Good. Peaches: Fair. Pears: Generally light. Plums: Light.

Hamilton.—Apples and Plums: Average. Peaches: Heavy. Pears: Light to average.

Tauranga.—Apples and Apricots: Average to good. Pears: Average. Lemons: Light to medium Summer crop. Oranges: Heavy blossoming. Peaches: Good. Plums: Light. Plums: (Jap.): Average to good.

Gisborne.—Apples: Light to average. Peaches, Pears, Plums and Walnuts: Average. Lemons: Average Summer crop expected. Oranges: Heavy blossoming.

Hastings.—All fruit in short supply owing to severe frost of October 14. Estimated loss of fruit in district, 85 per cent. Stone fruit will be particularly scarce.

Palmerston North.—Apples: Light to average. Peaches and Plums: Very light. Pears: Variable—light to good.

Nelson.—Apples: Variable—light to good. Lemons: Good promise. Peaches: Good prospects. Pears: Variable—fair to good. Plums: Medium.

Mapua.—Apples: Good to heavy. Delicious, Dunns, and Gravenstein: Light. Pears: Fair to good.

Motueka.—Apples: Fair to average. Dunn's: Light. Peaches and Pears: Average. Plums: Medium.

Blenheim.—Apples and Pears: Average to heavy. Peaches, Plums and Walnuts: Light.



The home of Mr. Geo. Clarke Snr., orchardist, "Rondebosch," Red Hill, Vic.

Christchurch.—Apples: Average. Delicious and Lord Wolseleys: Patchy. Pears and Plums: Average.

Dunedin.—Apples: Generally heavy. Peaches and Plums: Heavy. Pears: Average to heavy. Coles and Nelis: Generally light.

Alexandra.—On account of frost damage the pip and stone fruit crop will be a light one.

Tim: I see that science has discovered a new definition for the shortest elapsed time.

Kim: Oh! What is it?

Tim: It is the time between when the green light shows and the fool in the car behind you starts to honk his horn.

## QUEENSLAND.

Stanthorpe, 28/11/36: The Stanthorpe district is going through a very dry time, like a lot of other places, but fortunately we have had no heat to date. But a man with big trees carrying big crops is having a very anxious time.

The frost that travelled through the southern States reached here on September 27 and reduced crops in places, especially Peaches.

The Apple crop is medium: Dunns and Delicious very light in places. Pears good. Plums, good. Peaches, medium to light. Apricots, good.

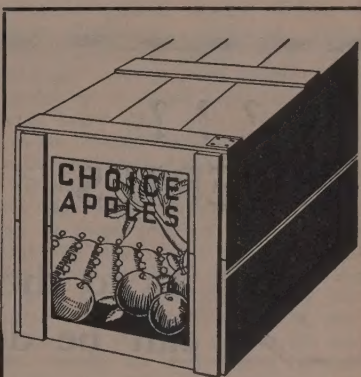
Fruit is clean—no trace of fly, codlin prevalent, and good orchardists generally speaking have good crops unless they experienced a little too much frost.

I am expecting the district to have a profitable season, providing they get an occasional shower and not a lot of heat, as the country has no reserve.

A hail relief scheme is to come into force in the northern part of the district this season. — H. M. Jones.

## SEEDLESS LIMES.

In 1931 a California orchardist planted 500 Bearss Seedless Limes. Last year, at five years of age, his crop returned a gross average of between £140 and £160 per acre. The Limes are nearly as large as Lemons, and are already very popular on the local market.



GOOD LABELLING  
Demands  
THE BEST PASTE

That's  
**DAVIS 333**  
**ADHESIVE**

THE BEST  
COLD WATER PASTE  
IN THE WORLD

Obtainable from all Hardware,  
Paint and other Stores.

# “SPREGAN” Colloidal Liquid Sulphur

For efficacious treatment of BLACK SPOT, BROWN ROT, DOWNY MILDEW, OIDIUM, and all Fungus Diseases for which Sulphur in any form may be used as a control.

**SAFE** - - - Because it Prevents Leaf Scorch.

**CERTAIN** - - - Because it gives definite control of Fungus Diseases.

**ECONOMICAL** Because it ensures maximum results at less cost than other forms of Sulphurs

As a Precautionary Spray, 1 lb. of "SPREGAN" to 100 gallons of water.  
As a Combatant Spray, 2 lb. of "SPREGAN" to 100 gallons of water.

## Manufacturers

**COLLOIDAL SULPHUR PTY. LTD.**

Wholesale and Retail Depot - - 466 Swanston Street, Carlton, N.3, Victoria.



# 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Million Consumers

.. in ..

East Lancashire, West Yorkshire and the Midlands  
Consume **2,500** tons of Apples per Week

DISTRIBUTING CHARGES TO PLACES IN THESE  
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## MANCHESTER

THAN FROM ANY OTHER PORT AND SALES SHOULD  
THEREFORE YIELD HIGHER NETT RETURNS.

MANCHESTER DOCKS, MARKETS AND FRUIT AUCTION ROOMS are equipped with every modern facility for efficient handling and rapid distribution. Wholesale merchants from all parts of the North and Midlands regularly obtain supplies at the local auction sales or by private treaty.

For information as to service and reliable Brokers and Distributors at Manchester apply to:—

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"PORTOMAN," Sydney.

CAPT. W. J. WADE,

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DOUBTS

As to the Best Outlet for Your Fruit  
can be dispelled by consigning it to

# T. J. POUPART LTD.

COVENT GARDEN  
LONDON, W.C.2.

SOUTHAMPTON BRISTOL LIVERPOOL HULL

Account Sales rendered are the best test  
of Salesmanship. On that test we have  
emerged from obscurity in 1895 to world-  
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**Consignments of Oranges Solicited**

Separate Department for Dried and Canned Produce and Pulp.

— AT —

**SPITALFIELDS MARKET**

London, E.1.

Tasmanian Growers ship through Eric E. Burgess, 88 Collins Street, Hobart.  
Victorian Growers ship through Fred J. Andrew, 153 William Street, Melbourne.

## Stone Fruit for Queensland

Regulations Regarding Plums,  
Apricots and Peaches.

Grade Standard for Plums.

STONE FRUITS can enter Queensland only under certain conditions, a summary of which has been compiled by the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. as follows:—

(1) Cases to be legibly and durably marked with the initials of the Christian names and full surname and address of the packer.

(2) The name of the variety and the grade of the fruit in letters and/or figures of not less than half an inch in length where grade standards have been fixed.

(3) Matured fruit means in the case of deciduous stone fruits, fruit which has matured the kernel inside the stone indicated by its brown color and which has not been picked when the kernel is in the jelly stage. The fruit may be still hard and firm, but shall have obtained its full growth and the skin shall give indication of the color of the particular variety.

Grade Standards for Plums.

No person shall sell or offer for sale in Queensland any Plum of any variety of a lesser diameter than the minimum for that variety as prescribed hereunder:—

1½ inch.—Early or Little Gem, Evans Early, Blue Rock, Tibbits, Early Orleans.

1½ inch.—Doris, Duffy's.

1½ inch.—Wilson, Angelina Burdett, Wright's Early, Santa Rosa, President, Grand Duke, Giant Prune.

1½ inch.—Burbank, Pond's, Black Diamond, Magnum Bonum, Coe's Golden Drop, Shipper, Kelsey, Wickson, Ballina, Shiro, Beauty, Formosa, Sultan, October Purple Narrabeen.

(5) "Diameter" means the linear measurement taken through the widest part of the fruit or vegetable at right angles to the axis of the stem and apex.

Attention is directed to the advertisement in this issue of the Southern Pear Packing Co. Ltd., of Blackburn, Victoria, who are advertising the "Fastpak" Paper Holder for fruit wrapping. The points claimed for this paper holder are as follow:—  
(1) Remarkable for the speed and smoothness with which the paper may be drawn from the container; (2) No waste—the needle-point control ensures that there is no waste or unsightly torn corners; (3) Adjustable to take various sizes of paper; (4) Durable—it will give years of efficient service without any cost for replacements; (5) Fast to work with and improves packers' tallies—at the same time prevents the paper from shifting or bucking in the container.

**Producers'  
Co-operative  
Distributing  
Society Ltd.**

Are now paying a Bonus  
of 10% on all Commis-  
sions charged to regular  
clients of the Fruit &  
Vegetable Section for  
year ending Sept., 1935

**Send Your Consignments  
TO US**

MELBOURNE & SYDNEY.



# Victorian Fruit Export

## Review of 1936 Season

BULK OF CONSIGNMENTS ARRIVED IN SATISFACTORY CONDITION - MORE FRUIT SHOULD BE MARKED "EXTRA FANCY" - FACTORS QUOTED WHICH CAUSED SLUMP IN PRICES - REDUCTION OF PEAR AND PLUM VARIETIES ADVOCATED.

Report by Mr. S. R. McColl, Victorian Government Commercial Officer at Agent-General's Office, London, Republished (together with Blocks) by courtesy from the "Journal of Agriculture," Victoria.

A COMPARISON of shipments of Apples, Pears, and Plums from Victoria to the United Kingdom and Continental ports for the 1935 and 1936 seasons reveals that, during 1936, exports of Apples from Victoria increased by 103,627 cases, and Pears by 90,561 bushel cases. There was a decrease of 11,183 half-bushel cases in the shipment of Plums. In all fruits there was a nett increase of 183,947 packages over the 1935 season. Apples were shipped to 11 ports in 1936, compared to only seven ports in 1935. The new ports exploited were Southampton and Manchester, in the United Kingdom, Dunkirk and Rotterdam. Additional ports to receive Pears direct were Hull and Glasgow, the former port receiving Plums also.

The whole of the exports from Victoria came forward in 61 steamers, as

rival on April 13, in which several marks opened up in a forward condition, with some showing immature and shrivelled fruit, each subsequent shipment contained quite a number of marks in a forward condition, and showing also part effected with wilt and shrivel. Three shipments were outstanding for generally defective fruit—the "Anchises" to Liverpool and Glasgow was reported with much fruit of several varieties in a wilted condition, and later the "Raranga" and "Port Dunedin" consignments to London arrived in a very forward condition, and showed considerable quantities of fruit with severe wilt or shrivel.

The Jonathan variety was the one most seriously affected, and included many lots with dull color and stale appearance. Other defective varieties which came under notice included King David, Dunns, Delicious,

that the bulk of the consignments opened up in good condition.

There were faulty lots, which included part of the fruit in a good condition and part defective. This variation in individual lots, it is considered, must have been due to adverse conditions in Victoria.

Bitter pit was observed in the first shipment of Apples ex R.M.S. "Otranto," in most varieties. Cleos., R.D.C., and a few lots of C.O.P. were badly affected; in other varieties the disease was not very serious. It is some time since so many lines of Victorian C.O.P. opened up in such a good, sound condition, and so free from pit injury. Up to 20/- per case and better was realised for this very attractive fruit.

The pit continued in following steamers, showing mostly in R.D.C., C.O.P., Cleos., Dunns, Delicious, Granny Smith and Alfristons, ranging from a slight to moderate degree, with odd Apples severely affected. In a few packs it was estimated that from 10 per cent. to 50 per cent. of the fruit was affected. Bitter pit, however, was not a very serious defect this year, and only in odd lots did it affect the selling value of Victorian Apples to any extent. It appeared throughout the season, but only to a slight extent right up to the last few shipments, in which the Granny Smith, S.T.P., and Jonathan varieties were showing a few Apples affected from a slight to severe degree.

These two troubles were not very serious, although more prevalent than during last season. Fungal rots

was usually associated with fruit in a forward condition.

**Quality.**

I would urge growers and exporters to give their fruit the grade it deserves. If fruit is well graded and packed it is obviously "Extra Fancy" quality; it does not seem good policy to under grade it in the eyes of buyers. It may be said that fruit is sold on the condition and appearance in which it is seen by buyers, and while this is true in most cases, it is also a fact that "Extra Fancy" fruit from some of the other States and from competitors in other countries invariably realises a margin over "Fancy" quality. There is no reason why Victorian grown fruit of "Extra Fancy" quality should not do likewise, but the first move towards this end is to grade and brand it as such.

**Apples Below Color Grade, and Mixed Colors.**

With respect to color grade, it should be noted that, with the exception of the last few shipments, when consignments consisted mainly of Yates, Rome Beauty, Rokewood, and "even color" varieties, each shipment contained quite a number of lots or either Jonathans, Delicious, Rome Beauty and King David with color shortage varying from half a dozen Apples up to 10 per cent. and 50 per cent. below the color requirements for the "Fancy" grade, with in some instances, many Apples quite green.

Grading for color was well done by the majority of packers. But I would say to those growers who failed to grade to requirements of the regulations, that they are doing harm, not only to themselves, but also to Victorian fruit generally. Buyers, particularly in the early part of the season, insist on full-colored dessert varieties, and if they are not to be had, give their attention to American Winesaps. These, although lacking freshness through long cold storage, nevertheless are sound and full colored, and more attractive to the buying public than poorly-colored Jonathans and other colored varieties, arriving at this time.

With "mixed colors" it should be noted that the defect was not so much a contravention of the color requirements, as the grading of Apples of 100 per cent. color with varying degrees of color down to the minimum of 20 per cent., with, in some instances, a small part below the minimum. A pack of this kind is not as attractive to the buyer as a uniform and evenly-colored pack, and I would strongly urge the grading of the fruit into the two grades of "Extra Fancy" and "Fancy." Provided that sufficient fruit is packed under the former grade, it is considered that it will realise a premium over the "Fancy" grade, and that the "Fancy" grade itself will not suffer in price by keeping the grades down.



★  
Packing  
Export  
Pears  
at  
Shepparton,  
Vic.

against 49 in the previous season. Of these, 49 landed fruit at London, 23 at Liverpool, 18 at Hull, nine at Glasgow, four at Southampton, and one at Manchester.

**Apples.**

The first four shipments to arrive at London were in good condition, but commencing with the "Orontes" ar-

R.D.C., Cleopatra, London Pippin, Duke of Clarence, C.O.P. for wilt and shrivel, and Cleopatra, C.O.P., Dunns, L.P., R.B., Statesman, Yates and Granny Smith in a too forward condition.

With the exception of the consignments ex the three steamers mentioned, I wish to make it quite clear

showed principally in C.O.P., Jonathans, London Pippin, and, towards the end of the season, in Statesman, and a few lots of Yates. In practically all instances the rots were seen in fruits in rather a forward condition. The bruised fruit was invariably in the larger sized Apples, and again



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NEEDLE HOLDS PAPER  
SIZE ADJUSTERS  
WRAPPING PAPER  
SIZE ADJUSTERS

Patent No. 4779/36

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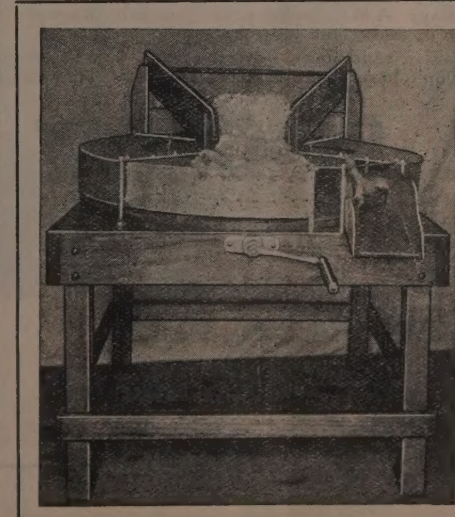
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If it is at all practicable to do so, I should like to see the raising of the color standard for Jonathans, and other varieties now being shipped with such a variation of color. If growers fail to realise the desirability of packing their fruit to a higher grade, and to separate the "Fancy" and "Extra Fancy" quality, it may be desirable for the competent authority to make such action compulsory. This may be necessary to meet the competition that is increasing each year.

## Packing and Grading.

The packing of most of the Apples which came under my notice was generally satisfactory until towards the end of the season, when, commencing with the "Balranald" until the final shipment ex "Tudor Star," quite a number of lots in each shipment were very slack packed.

Grading likewise was consistently good throughout the season, but here again individual growers failed to comply with the regulations and shipped Apples of sizes prohibited for export, such as 3-inch C.O.P. and Rokewoods, 3½-inch London Pippin, Yates and Jonathans 2 inch and under. In some instances Apples marked 2½-inch contained mostly 3 inches and over, and there were also some instances of mixed sizes in the same case.

## Prices.

The opening prices quoted by auction for Victorian Apples for the 1935 and 1936 season were as follow:—

	1935.	1936.
C.O.P. . . .	8/- to 20/-	16/6 to 19/3
Granny Smith	10/- to 13/-	9/3 to 13/-
Jonathan	11/- to 13/-	9/3 to 10/6
Dunns . . .	8/6 to 10/6	7/6 to 9/9
London Pippin .	8/- to 10/-	8/6 to 10/-
Delicious	10/-	7/6 to 8/6
K.D. . . .	10/-	8/- to 10/-
Ribston . . .	8/- to 8/6	9/- to 9/9

Only those varieties available for comparison are quoted. These figures do not show an appreciable difference for top prices in most varieties, with the exception of Jonathans, which made 2/6 per case more in 1935. But while prices held firm in 1935 and appreciated later owing to the failure of the English berry season and a general shortage of Apples, the reverse proved the case in 1936.

With the exception of Granny Smith and C.O.P. varieties, which held a fairly high level throughout the season, prices continued to fall until very low values had to be accepted for all other varieties about the opening of the English berry season in early June. At this time and following weeks excellent quality Rome Beauty, Yates, Jonathans, Stewart Seedling, Statesman, Sturmers, etc., were making only 5/- to 7/- a case, with some outstanding lots a little better. Prices did improve towards the end of July, with diminishing arrivals, but with the exception of Granny Smith's few of the other varieties made better prices than 9/- to 10/- a case. At the same time last year similar fruit realised 13/- to 14/- per case, but, as stated earlier, 1935 season was an exceptional one in favor of Australian fruit. August prices for Sturmers were as low as 3/- to 4/- per case.

No one reason can be given for the poor prices realised this season. Whereas everything worked together for the good of Australasian Apples in 1935, many factors operated against satisfactory prices for 1936. Perhaps the more important of these may be summarised as follows:—

(a) Increased competition from United States of America and South Africa in April.

The arrival of Apples at United Kingdom ports from United States of America and South Africa were:—

	April, 1935.	April, 1936.
U.S.A. . . . .	196,000	361,000
Sth. Africa . . . .	41,000	109,000
Total . . . .	237,000	470,000

Increase, 233,000 cases.

On April 2, 1936, prices quoted for fruit from countries other than Australia were as follow:—

South Africa.—Dunns, 8/9 to 11/- Golden Delicious, 8/3 to 9/9; Del., 7/ to 9/-.

U.S.A.—Winesaps, 8/6 to 10/3 Newtown (Oregon), 9/- to 12/-; Newtown (Californian), 8/6 to 10/-.

New Zealand.—Alf., 9/6 to 11/-; Grav., 7/6 to 8/9.

Virginia (barrels). — Albemarle, Winesaps, Yorks, 18/- to 30/- per barrel.

(b) Heavy arrivals in May, which from all sources totalled 2,273,000 cases, as against 1,806,000 in 1935, an increase of 467,000 cases. Of this increase, Australia's share was 298,000 cases, the arrivals for 1935 and 1936 being 1,467,000 cases and 1,765,000 cases respectively.

May to June arrivals of Apples from Australia and N.Z. showed an increase of 765,000 cases on the corresponding months of 1935. The S. African increase in the same period was 70,000 cases.

There was an increase of nearly 1,000,000 cases for the period, March to July, inclusive, as follows:—

## Arrival of Apples into United Kingdom (March to July, Inclusive).

	1935.	1936.	Increase.
Canada	512,000	515,000	3,000
U.S.A.	1,004,000	1,177,000	173,000
S. Africa	69,000	260,000	191,000
Australia	3,766,000	4,142,000	376,000
N.Z.	739,000	947,000	208,000
Totals	6,090,000	7,041,000	951,000

Increase of 951,000 cases, or nearly 16 per cent.

Argentine shipments are not included, but these showed little change from the previous year, the quantities being 17,463 cases in 1935 and 17,583 cases in 1936.

(c) Influence of unsatisfactory condition of several early shipments which opened up in a forward condition and showing a lot of wilted fruit from Victoria and other States, and later in the season influence of brown heart in Tasmanian Sturmers affecting prices generally.

(d) Limitation of Continental markets and early collapse of same; some Apples shipped to the Continent were returned to London for sale.

(e) Unseasonable weather conditions, and last, but not least, in the opinion of many, was the shortage and consequently high prices for vegetables in the early part of the season limiting the purchasing power of the public—vegetables having the first call as a necessity, and fruit coming second as a luxury. This condition, it is suggested, had some influence on prices realised for early shipments and affected prices for Oranges and other fruits also.

Before ending on this matter, it is of interest to record that as late as July 16, 1936, old crop Washington Winesaps were sold on the London market at from 7/- to 9/- per case with an average of 7/9, at the same time as Victorian Apples were realising 6/6 to 7/- for Dunns, 6/6 to 9/- for Yates, and 6/6 to 7/6 for Rokewood.

## Pears.

Some 364,751 bushel cases and 15,656 standard cases of Pears were



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"But I couldn't afford seventeen shillings a week," said the nephew.

"I could when I was 25," answered the old man. "I COULD have afforded it, but I didn't. An opportunity missed. I didn't realise what the A.M.P. could do. If I had realised I would have strained every nerve to have half a dozen policies started before I was 35. That's my advice to you: As many A.M.P. policies as you can in your twenties and thirties. Hop in to-day and be rich."

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shipped to London in 37 steamers. Liverpool received 26,893 cases, Hull 2,450 cases, and Glasgow 6,305 cases. The 9,734 cases originally consigned to Hamburg were subsequently discharged at London. In addition, several fairly large parcels of Pears were sold in Glasgow during the session ex consignments to other ports.

#### William Bon Chretien's.

The first shipment of William bon Chretien Pears ex s.s. "Mongolia" did not arrive in as satisfactory condition as the corresponding shipment in 1935. The condition varied from green hard to yellow ripe, and there was a lot of superficial skin marking throughout the consignment. The second shipment on the "Sultan Star" was in a much better and more uniform condition, with only part showing skin marking. Later arrivals of W.B.C. from southern districts were in a very forward condition, showing much waste from scald and core breakdown.

#### Other Varieties.

Of the 35 shipments, I have classified the general condition of the consignments as follows:—

Twenty-nine shipments "Good" or "mostly good"—odd lots in a forward condition, and showing a little waste.

Five shipments "variable," which would include part of the consignments in a good, hard, sound condition, and part ripe with some waste.

One shipment "very variable," and showing appreciable quantities in a ripe to over-ripe condition.

In the last two or three shipments there came under notice quite a few lines showing many Pears with fungal rots. There were also one lot of the Thompson variety, and two lots of Beurre Bosc, which externally, appeared to be quite sound, but which, when cut, showed a browning in the core and surrounding tissues. No information is available to enable a definite opinion being given as to the nature of the trouble, but it is considered by research officers that it may be "brown heart."

Considering the large quantities of Pears shipped from the State, the general condition of the consignments was satisfactory.

The quality of the many varieties was consistently good throughout the season. There were defects of a minor character, such as excess black spot, codlin, and excess spray residue, but the quantity of fruit effected, and the extent of the defects, was relatively small.

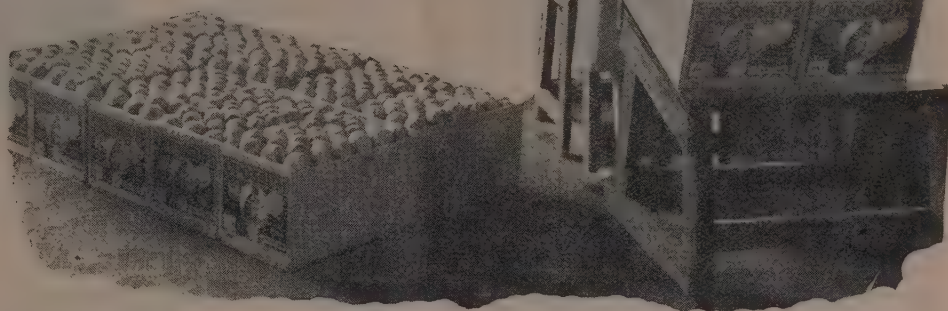
Some growers consistently packed their Pears as "Good" grade when the quality justified "Fancy" grade. It may be advanced that Pears are sold according to actual condition and quality, and not to the grade marked on the case. This may be so to personal buyers; but all fruit is not sold on personal examination by buyers. Orders are frequently received over the telephone or by mail, and when "Fancy" grade is stipulated, a sale is lost, even though the quality of the "Good" grade on hand is quite up to "Fancy." The Pears are sold subsequently of course, but generally at lower values. Every agent or merchant endeavours to clear his consignments on a firm market as soon as possible, in view of the regular weekly shipments coming to hand, so it is to the advantage of individual growers to have their own fruit sold early, to avoid deterioration, particularly when consignments arrive in a forward condition.

There is little to be said with respect to the grading of Pears. With few exceptions this was consistently good in all shipments, although there were a few lots of very small Pears—all under 2-in. size.

There is still room for improvement in the packing of many lines

of Pears. Whilst some of the larger Pear exporters consistently put up an ideal pack, many of the individual growers fail to pack to advantage. Such defects were noticed as, the finishing of the pack too high in the flat bushel case, so that the top layer and contents generally are bruised by lid pressure and the sparing use of woodwool, when a more liberal supply would have prevented the case marking of the top row.

Apples packed  
ready for  
export.



With very large Pears it is recommended that they should be double wrapped. This is a practice adopted by some of the large exporters, and gives added protection, particularly when Pears arrive in a forward condition—the larger Pears invariably are more advanced than the smaller sizes. Yellow skinned varieties appear to require additional protection, as when the Pears become marked the skins turn black. A few lots of large sized Doyenne du Comice Pears which arrived in a slightly forward condition opened up showing quite a lot of bruising due to tight packing. The Doyenne du Comice Pear is one that sells well on this market and invariably makes top prices, and in my opinion would justify any additional expenditure incurred in packing it in trays.

#### Schedule of Pears.

It is considered that the time has arrived when consideration should be given to the inclusion in the Commerce Act Regulations of a schedule covering the varieties of Pears which may be exported, and uniform abbreviations for all such varieties. During the past season, it is understood that some 70 or more varieties were shipped from Australia to United Kingdom ports. If a schedule is adopted it is suggested that some consideration should be given to the elimination of many unsuitable varieties, and to those varieties of which

only small quantities are now exported.

With regard to the suggestion that uniform abbreviation should be adopted, it has been noticed, particularly in the case of Pears from Tasmania, that the variety, as often as not, is indicated by letters only, for instance, "B.A." might stand for either B. d'Anjou or Black Achan. The absence of uniform nomenclature leads to confusion among agents and buyers alike.

So far as Victoria is concerned, there are considerably fewer varieties exported, and most of them are well known. Even so, uniformity of marketing would be appreciated, as the abbreviations now used lack uniformity. For instance, the Beurre Bosc variety has been shown as "Beau B.", "B.B.", "Bosc," "B. Bosc," and "Beurre Bosc." Many similar examples could be quoted with other varieties.

#### Labelling and Stencilling.

The new system of printing the trade description on the end of the cases, as adopted by many growers and exporters, is considered a great improvement on the old method of stencilling. Attractive labels are quite satisfactory, but care should be taken to see that they are properly applied. Several instances came under notice this year where the labels were peeling from the cases, and a large number were lying on the floor

of the shed, resulting in the total absence of any trade description.

With regard to the stencilling of cases I think it will be agreed that this method has long outlived its usefulness, and should be replaced by the "direct printing" method or labels. Certainly much of the stencilling was badly applied this season. The area available for stencilling on the end of the flat bushel Pear case is definitely limited, and when stencils containing many words for the name of the exporter are included, the space available for grade, size, and variety is rather small. The whole leads to a very indistinct brand and lacks individuality. I feel sure that the appearance of the packs from some of the co-operative sheds would be greatly improved by the adoption of a simplified and distinct brand, and in this connection I would suggest that the branding adopted by most of the Doncaster growers might be taken for a guide.

#### Plums.

The quantity of Plums shipped to United Kingdom ports showed a large decrease in comparison with 1935. Exports in 1935 amounted to the equivalent of 17,148 half-bushel cases, compared with only 5,965 half-bushel cases in 1936. It may be of interest to record that some 7,609 quarter cases and a parcel of trays, each containing four punnets of 6 lb. each, came forward from New South Wales.



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The later is the American type of package for Plums. From these figures it appears likely that New South Wales will be a keen competitor on the Plum market in future years.

The Victorian Plums were shipped on three steamers. A parcel of 100 cases only of Grand Duke on the R.M.S. "Mongolia," landed in good condition, showing from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. color with stalks green and no internal discoloration. The merchant who received this small lot displayed one case in the English half-bushel basket, in which they gave the appearance of freshly picked Plums from an English orchard. This lot cleared quickly at 7/6 to 8/- a case.

The bulk of the Plums was shipped per S.S. "Sultan Star" — 3,565 half-cases to London, and 495 half-cases to Liverpool. The general condition of this shipment was a vast improvement on anything shipped in previous years. This was undoubtedly due to grading to uniform sizes, and the harvesting of the fruit at the right stage to ensure them opening up in England in a condition more backward than forward. The packing likewise was uniformly good, although quite a few lots were not wrapped. The result of this shipment confirmed the opinion expressed last year that exports should be limited to those varieties proving themselves free or nearly so

from the discoloration of the flesh injury, which so seriously prejudices their market value. Grand Duke, President, Jefferson, Coe's Golden Drop, Pickering, and Satsuma arrived in the best condition.

The following are some of the prices realised, viz.: — Grand Duke, 7/- to 10/-; President, 7/- to 10/-; Jefferson mostly, 7/- to 10/-; One lot 20 cases, 12/- to 14/-; Coe's Golden Drop, 7/- to 9/-; Pickering, 8/- to 8/6.

So far as I can learn, there was no low range of prices for these varieties due to the uniformly good sound condition. In other years owing to variations in size and condition, many lower ranges of prices were obtained.

#### Varieties for Deletion.

The following varieties were all affected with severe internal browning, and although they were mostly firm or fairly firm and made reasonably good prices, it would be wise to discontinue shipping these varieties and concentrate on those that have definitely proved themselves over the past few years:—

Case: R. (? Reine Claude), 6/- to 7/-; M. (? McLaughlin), 7/- to 8/-; YE (? Yellow Egg), 7/- to 8/-; Premier, 5/- to 6/- (mostly 5/-); Narrabeen (11 cases only), 7/- to 7/6; Diamond, 2/- to 6/-.

In addition to the above varieties it



Irrigation channel in the Shepparton area, Goulburn Valley.

is understood that small lots of the Blue Belgium and Wickson varieties were shipped, but these were not seen, and no information is available as to their condition or the prices realised. Blue Belgium, which arrived in fairly good condition in 1935, is an attractive Plum and may do well here.

One Liverpool firm reported a consignment of "Presidents" to be fairly satisfactory, realising up to 9/- a half-case. "Premiers" were said to be unsatisfactory.

The third consignment of 965 half-cases to London arrived ex "New Zealand Star" on April 3, some 26 days after the previous one. These were reported to be generally unsatisfactory. October Purple, President, Golden Drop, and Reine Claude were generally soft and collapsing; Yellow Egg, green to green-yellow,

case marked, bruised, and flesh brown; and Grand Duke, very fair to poor. Some prices realised were as follows:—

Yellow Egg, 6d. to 2/-; Golden Drop, 7/6 to 10/-; Reine Claude, 3/6; Grand Duke, 9/- to 10/- (some 3/6 to 4/-).

No reports were available for the Hull and Liverpool consignments.

From information I have been able to collect, it is estimated that the average prices for all varieties would be considerably higher than any previous year's outturn.

Buyers were not slow to appreciate the marked improvement in the grading and packing of this fruit, and with the sound condition of many varieties, agents could offer lots with confidence and the good lines sold freely at remunerative prices.

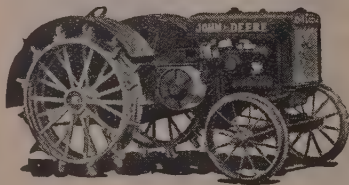
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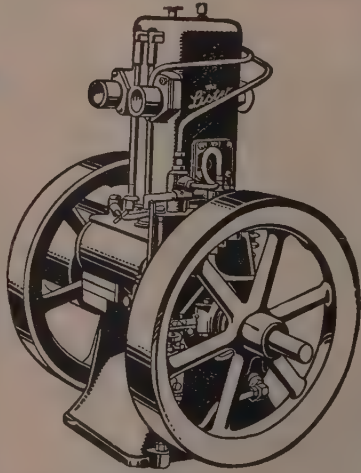
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## Developing Australian Trade Abroad

NEW TRADE TREATIES PROVIDE THAT FRESH APPLES AND PEARS ENTER BELGIUM AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA FREE OF DUTY.

AS A MEANS of extending markets for primary exports, the Minister in charge of Trade Treaties (Sir Henry Gullett) introduced bills in the House of Representatives (October 29, 1936), to give effect to trade treaties concluded with Belgium, Czechoslovakia and South Africa.

The treaties with Belgium and South Africa are continuing subject to six months notice on either side. That with Czechoslovakia is for a year.

The United Kingdom market, on which we are mainly dependent at present, said the Minister, has limits, and if primary industry in Australia is to expand, markets must be developed in other countries as well.

The treaties provide for tariff adjustments calculated to promote mutual trading on an expanding basis. Broadly, the aim is to secure for Australia a few major benefits applying to important exports in return for a number of minor benefits to Belgium and Czechoslovakia, and to promote trade in a more limited field as between Australia and South Africa.

#### Belgium.

With Belgium, the present trade position is 10 to 1 in favor of Australia (1935-36, exports, £7,200,000; imports £710,000 Australian currency).

Apart from the existing arrangement applying to glass, the Treaty provides for reciprocal most-favored-

nation treatment and specifically:—

To Belgium.—The grant of the Intermediate Tariff to Belgium in respect of 53 items; an undertaking not to increase the duty on non-protective items; primage concessions on a number of items; remission of revenue duty on outside packages in respect of 9 items; an undertaking to refer a limited number of items to the Tariff Board for inquiry; reclassification of certain sheet glass not manufactured in Australia.

To Australia.—Consolidation of duty-free entry into Belgium of Australian wool, sheepskins, hides and tallow, fresh Apples and Pears.

Beef, barley, wheat and frozen beef not be to prohibited.

#### Czechoslovakia.

Australian statistics give Australia's present exports to Czechoslovakia at £491,000 and imports at £395,000. Czechoslovakian statistics show the imports from Australia (allowing for that obtained through other countries) at £872,000, and exports to Australia at £286,000 (sterling). On the basis of the import figures of Czechoslovakia and Australia, the trading position between the two countries was 2 to 1 in favor of Australia during the last three years.

The general provisions are similar to those of the treaty with Belgium, but there is variation in the tariff items involved.



CITRUS NEWS & NOTES

Citrus Round the World

**Italy.**  
ITALIAN production was down last season and Italy is reported to be heavily top-working to better varieties and replacing unsatisfactory trees as part of her policy of inducing greater primary production.  
The lack of refrigerating plants in Italy has been of great disadvantage to the Italian fruit industry during past years, as the impossibility of storing fruit over any lengthy period of time forced growers to dispose of their produce at cut-throat prices.  
This position has been alleviated by the installation of refrigerating plants at the main centres such as Milan, Bologna, Padua and Verona, which allow the fruit arriving from southern Italy to be stored until required for export abroad at favorable prices. The main centre is Milan, from whence exports to Switzerland, the most important buyer of Italian fruit, can readily be made.

**France.**  
Increased supplies were received from Brazil, U.S.A. and Palestine in 1935. Following a strong advertising campaign, imports of Jaffa oranges increased rapidly.

Quota restrictions imposed by the French Government resulted in a drop in Orange imports from 263,000,000 kilos in 1934 to 204,000,000 kilos in 1935.

Expressed in million kilos, and with 1934 in brackets for comparison, imports of Oranges into France in 1935 were as follows:—From Spain, 171 249; Italy, 5 (4); Palestine, 6 (2); Brazil, 9 (3); U.S.A., 9 (2); other countries, 2 (3). Total from all sources, 305 (265).

Lemon imports fell from 30,000,000 kg. in 1934 to 29,000,000 kg. in 1935, of which Italy's contribution increased by 3,000,000 kg. Even so, price returns were higher than in the earlier year.

Tangerine imports fell most of all citrus fruits, with a decrease of 1,000,000 kg. Spain was the chief sufferer from this shortage of imports into France.

**U.S.A.**  
During 1935, U.S.A. exported to France about 376,000 cases of Oranges and to United Kingdom markets a total of 1,650,000 cases.

**Egypt.**  
A memorandum issued by the Egyptian Ministry of Commerce and Industry to all Egyptian legations and consulates abroad requests them to submit information regarding the possibilities for the marketing of Egyptian Lemons on foreign markets during the coming season, when the economic sanctions on Italian Lemons will be abolished. The Ministry also requests information regarding the

various restrictions, if any, on the import of Lemons.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry is methodically organising the export of Lemons, as the experience of last year gave satisfactory results.

**Palestine.**  
Government has approved of the recommendations submitted by the Citrus Advertising Committee which provides for large advertising contracts being placed in Great Britain, the Continent and India. Over £8,000 will be spent on advertising Jaffa Oranges abroad.

**Spain.**  
"Excessive exports to the United Kingdom and the Continent in anticipation of reduced Spanish imports may prove unsatisfactory to California producers," a U.S.A. report advises. "Whether outlets on the Continent for California citrus will increase as a result of conditions in Spain is uncertain. There does not appear to be any present basis for expecting any opportunities to send extraordinary shipments into France, since Spanish producers have open to them adequate rail and water service into all major European markets. No reports so far received have indicated destruction of Spanish groves or exceptional decrease in anticipated volume."

The present Spanish crop is reported to be running to small sizes.

The heaviest export months are between December and March, and U.K. and Continental markets are thus competitive between Spain and California.

A later report states that, in spite of the civil war, all old firms are being allowed to export citrus fruits under their usual brands. Printers and sawmills are busy preparing labels and cases and Village Committees are supervising the harvest so as to provide employment. The crop was estimated (in October) to be heavier than usual, although a large percentage of small fruits was predicted.

**Denmark.**  
Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed in Danish newspapers over the action of the Currency Office in withholding permits for the importation of South African Oranges until too late for merchants to finalise contracts. Licenses for importation of Oranges from Brazil were also held up, although coffee permits were available. The Currency Office was negotiating with Brazil on a barter exchange for Danish klip-fish for Brazilian fruit.

The delays occasioned by the Currency Office failing to accept advice of experts upon seasons to be observed, is claimed to enforce buying citrus from British markets at a higher landing cost than by direct shipments. Palestine fruits were expected to be

unobtainable owing to the delay of the Currency Office in issuing import permits.

**Finland.**  
It is reported that crop failure in Finland would decrease production by 50 per cent. this past season. Finnish Fruit Growers' Association recommended to Government that, under the circumstances, their market should be opened to foreign exporters.

**Brazil.**  
At the close of the 1936 export season, Brazil reported an increase of exports from the State of Sao Paulo of 100,000 cases more than in 1935. Approximately 70 per cent. of exports went to Great Britain.

Mediterranean Fruit Fly was responsible for considerable damage in the past season, and the whole output of many groves had to be disposed of on the local market as waste fruit. A large proportion of available fruit was of the Bahia, or large type, which is less suitable for export.

**Jamaica.**  
The Government is considering some form of control of export citrus, with the object of securing more regular marketing and the organisation of transport that will effect a reduction of freight rates. This will probably take the form of a Citrus Export Control Board, since an earlier proposal of a voluntary board did not mature.

For three years a Citrus Development Scheme has been in operation during which time 800 acres of new trees have been planted. Approved varieties of Oranges and Grapefruit have been provided for orchardists, and their three main markets, Great Britain, Canada and New Zealand, have received careful attention.

ORANGES GO TO NEW ZEALAND.

**Embargo Removed.**  
Stimulated by the public demand for citrus fruits and the excusable objection to the absurdly high price that was asked by retailers for Jamaican Oranges, the N.Z. Government, following representations from Australia, declared permission for certain approved fruit distributors in the Dominion to import Oranges from the Murrumbidgee Irrigated Area and from Victoria during December.

The first shipment left per "Omana" on December 5, and comprised 4,000 cases. Other shipments were arranged to bring the total imports of Victorian and N.S.W. Oranges up to 12,000 cases under this special concession.

The conditions under which the ban was temporarily lifted included that the N.Z. Government should control the prices at which the fruit should be distributed both by wholesale and retail agents, that the Oranges must be grown in the Murrumbidgee or Victorian areas, and be certified as coming from districts that are free from the Mediterranean Fruit Fly.

The Department of Agriculture co-operated and supervised the inspection which was made strict in order that no grounds for complaint by New Zealand should apply and that future negotiations regarding further trade between the two countries might not be embarrassed.

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HAND MADE  
**SPRAY HOSE**  
BURST PROOF  
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"Every Inch Australian"  
OBTAINABLE AT ALL STORES  
Made by the Hardie Rubber Coy Ltd  
Australia

SPAIN STILL A FACTOR.  
13 Million Boxes to U.K.

In discussing the prospects for next citrus export season, the "Industry Review," published by the Mutual Orange Distributors, California, points out that up-to-date the war disruption in Spain has not greatly affected the Orange export trade. Normally, Spain provides about half of the total exports of Oranges on the Continent, this includes anything from 7,000,000 to 10,000,000 boxes to the United Kingdom during the Winter and from 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 boxes during Summer months, out of a total export of around 26,000,000 cases in a normal year.

JAZZING UP THE FACTORY.  
Colored Equipment.

The drabness and monotony of factory work is being relieved by the San Fernando Heights Orange Association of California by fitting out the girl operatives in two-tone uniforms, painting the machinery a violet shade and the packing tables a Persian Orange color, says the "Christian Science Monitor."

The grading tables are finished in mustard-yellow, the conveyor belts in peacock blue. The whole effect, though unorthodox, enlivens an otherwise prosaic drudgery and the management declares that it has ousted nerves and factional quarrels and has created a sense of cheerfulness in the works. Blues of three shades, yellow-ochre, red-brown, magenta, red-orange, mustard-yellow, two shades of green and aluminium are all woven together into an artistic harmony which, as far as the experiment can be judged, is satisfactory in results.

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All particulars as regards charges, etc., can be obtained from:

**Capt. A. W. Pearse, Port of London Authority, 22 Loftus St., Sydney**

### ARE EXPORT MARKETS NEGLECTED.

Sir Stanley Argyle Says "Yes."

That the market in Northern Great Britain for our citrus fruits is being neglected was the charge laid by the Leader of the Opposition, Sir Stanley Argyle, recently in the Victorian Legislative Assembly.

During his recent tour abroad, he had found that the northern areas were supplied with citrus fruits from foreign countries, and he submitted that Victoria could secure that trade if she guaranteed a continuous supply of fruit, pre-cooled and well packed, true to name and of good quality. He asked the Premier to investigate the possibility of extending trade in that direction.

### \$80,000 FOR ADVERTISING CITRUS.

Yet Florida Says it Pays.

It is rather interesting to recall that the Victorian Orchardists and Fruit Cool Stores Association, after much discussion, decided to spend £60 this past season in advertising Apples and then to read the Florida Citrus Commission spent \$80,000 last season in advertising citrus fruits and still feel that it was worth-while.

Most of the Florida production of Grapefruit is now canned both for fruit in sections and for fruit juice. The canneries took over 4,000,000 cases at an average price of 2/6½ for fruit juice and 3/- per case for fruit for canning in sections. Although the total number of cases of Grapefruit used was 1,000,000 less than 1935, it returned over \$1,000,000 more to the growers.

Australian growers will have to face the responsibility of providing advertising funds for campaigns aimed at increasing the local consumption of fruit. That all American fruit varieties are advertised in nation-wide campaigns each year cannot but impress the wisdom of, and the satisfactory results received from general and efficient advertising.

### A Serious Error.

"Look here, Sarah," said the master of the house, "how many more times have I to tell you about these cobwebs? I've just had to sweep one off the bed-rail and throw it in the fire myself."

"Good gracious, sir," exclaimed the maid, "that's the missus' fancy dress for to-night's ball!"

### Best Market Prices

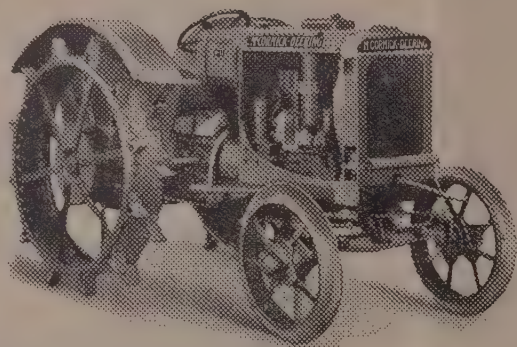
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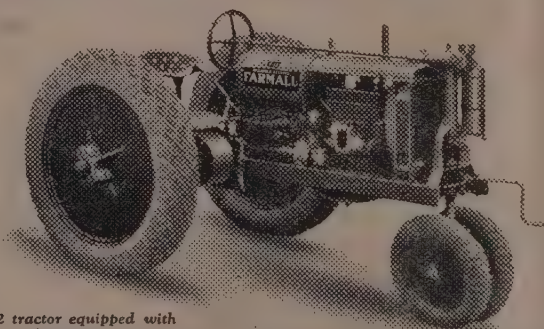
It has ample power to do any field job within its range, and will handle readily all manner of belt work . . . you will find a hundred-and-one uses for these versatile

general-purpose tractors. In an astonishingly short time they pay for themselves. Without hesitation we can say that once you use one of these tractors you will wonder how you ever got along without it. . . . Let us hear from you and we will gladly send you full details.

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over to one of  
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# Superficial Scald in Granny Smith Apples

## Experiments at Batlow Indicate Control Measures

By H. Broadfoot, Special Fruit Instructor, and E. C. Whittaker, Fruit Inspector, in the "N.S.W. Agricultural Gazette."

THE GRANNY SMITH APPLE is grown very extensively in New South Wales. It does well in all districts of the State, adapting itself to a very wide range of soil and climate, and producing good crops of fine quality fruit under all these conditions.

On the whole the cropping is regular and the production compares very favorably with that of any other variety of Apple grown in the State. The producer it is amongst the most profitable of Apples, not only because of the foregoing qualities, but because, in addition, it is an excellent export variety, keeping well in common and cold storage—much longer, of course, in cold storage.

### A Danger to Trade.

When held in cold storage for long periods, however, the Granny Smith Apple becomes very susceptible to scald, and if provision is not made to guard against this trouble, heavy losses may result. There is a heavy demand for increasing production of Granny Smith Apples in this State, as in other States of the Commonwealth, and in view of the popularity of this variety in our own and overseas markets, every possible effort should be made to prevent this Apple to the consumer in the best possible condition. If effective steps are not taken to prevent scald in Granny Smith Apples which are to be held for long periods in cold storage, adverse results are likely to follow, especially in the sales of this Apple late in the season.

To find the best way to combat this susceptibility and to gain further information on the subject, experiments were carried out at Batlow, from 1930 to 1934, and a summary of results is given in this report.

### What is Scald?

It may be well, before proceeding, to state briefly what scald is, and to describe its effects upon the fruit. It may be mentioned, too, that scald has been found on other varieties of Apples, such as Rome Beauty, Delicieux, Statesman, etc., but not nearly to the same extent as on Granny Smith. Apple scald may be defined as a superficial brown discoloration of the skin. It occurs upon the fruit in storage, or after removal from

storage. Investigators report it as resulting from the deleterious effects upon the epidermal tissues, of gasses given off from the Apple. Scald usually affects only the surface layers of cells, but in later stages it may extend into the flesh cells. Scald may occur in small spots, or on a small portion of the surface, or over the whole area, giving the Apple a tinted brown appearance. It may develop on fruit in store, or even fruit apparently quite sound at the time of removal may develop heavy scald within a few days or more after removal.

### Details of the Experiment.

The arrangement of the experiment was as follows:—

Forty cases of Granny Smith Apples were harvested each season for five years at the correct picking period, from matured trees growing—

- a. In heavy soil.
- b. In light soil.

The forty cases from each lot of trees were each year divided into lots of ten cases (five from each lot of trees) and treated as follows:—

Lot 1.—Placed in cold storage immediately after picking.

Lot 2.—Held in common storage for about six weeks prior to being placed in cold storage.

Lot 3.—Enclosed in oiled papers (American) and immediately placed in cold storage.

Lot 4.—Held in common storage for about six weeks; the fruit was then enclosed in oiled papers (American) and immediately placed in cold storage.

Lot 5.—Enclosed in oiled paper (Australian) and immediately placed in cold storage.

Lot 6.—Held in common storage for about six weeks; the fruit was then enclosed in oiled papers (Australian) and immediately placed in cold storage.

Lot 7.—Packed with a thick layer of oiled strips placed between each tier of Apples; the fruit was then immediately placed in cold storage.

Lot 8.—Held in common storage for a period of about six weeks, and then packed with a thick layer of oiled strips placed between each layer of Apples; the fruit was then immediately placed in cold storage.

One case of fruit from each lot was held back each year and examined at various periods after removal from cold storage.

The fruit was held under commercial cold storage conditions at a temperature of 33-34 deg. Fahr. each year, the method of refrigeration used being the air circulating system.

The minimum period fruit was held in any given season was 201 days, and the maximum period in any given season, 224 days. Only commercial sizes of Granny Smith Apples were used in the experiment.

The time of picking and of removal of the fruit from cool storage varied slightly from year to year. This, of course, was necessary owing to seasonal conditions.

### A Summary of Results.

The oiled strips and Australian oiled wraps were unobtainable during the last year the tests were carried out (1934), and the following table enables comparison of the four treatments for the four-year period 1930-1933:—

#### Section A1.—Heavy Soil—Immediate Storage.

Treatment.	Total No. of Apples used in Experiment.	Total No. of Apples Scalded.	Percentage of Scald.
Unwrapped . . . .	1,988	710	35.71
American oiled wraps . . . . .	1,958	109	5.56
Australian oiled wraps . . . . .	1,873	97	5.17
Oiled strips . . . .	1,888	142	7.52

#### Section A2.—Heavy Soil—Delayed Storage 6 Weeks.

Unwrapped . . . .	2,054	411	20.09
American oiled wraps . . . . .	1,954	2	.102
Australian oiled wraps . . . . .	1,878	7	.37
Oiled strips . . . .	2,103	21	.99

#### Section B1.—Light Soil—Immediate Storage.

Unwrapped . . . .	2,041	759	37.18
American oiled wraps . . . . .	1,824	35	1.91
Australian oiled wraps . . . . .	1,812	32	1.76
Oiled strips . . . .	1,883	28	1.48

#### Section B2.—Light Soil—Delayed Storage.

Unwrapped . . . .	1,921	354	18.42
American oiled wraps . . . . .	1,910	12	.62
Australian oiled wraps . . . . .	1,853	5	.26
Oiled strips . . . .	1,956	9	.46

The following table compares the percentages of scald in the fruit enclosed in American oiled wraps with that in fruit unwrapped for the four-year period 1930-1934:—

#### Section A1.—Heavy Soil—Immediate Storage.

Treatment.	Total No. of Apples used in Experiment.	Total No. of Apples Scalded.	Percentage of Scald.
Unwrapped . . . .	2,411	1,067	44.25
American oiled wraps . . . . .	2,311	290	12.54

#### Section A2.—Heavy Soil—Delayed Storage.

Unwrapped . . . .	2,384	543	22.77
American oiled wraps . . . . .	2,274	2	.08

#### Section B1.—Light Soil—Immediate Storage.

Unwrapped . . . .	2,391	1,024	42.82
American oiled wraps . . . . .	2,124	41	1.93

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#### Section B2.—Light Soil—Delayed Storage.

Unwrapped . . . .	2,341	406	17.34
American oiled wraps . . . . .	2,250	12	.53

Observations made during the experiment may be summarised as follows:—

1. The use of oiled wraps and oiled strips greatly minimised scald development.
2. Oiled wraps are preferable to oiled strips, both on account of scald control and ease of handling.
3. The unwrapped fruit developed far more scald than fruit enclosed in oiled wraps or embedded in oiled strips.
4. Delayed storage without wrapping fruit in oiled papers gave some control over scald.
5. Enclosing the fruit in oiled wraps without delayed storage was superior to delayed storage alone.
6. Delayed storage and enclosing the fruit in oiled wraps gave by far the best results.

### Recommendations for Control of Scald.

The results of these experiments carried out at Batlow over a period of five years together with other information obtained by the Department indicate that, in order to minimise greatly scald development in Granny Smith Apples intended for long storage, it is essential carefully to observe and to carry out the following rules:—

1. Pick Apples at right degree of maturity—when the fruit has lost that "woody" taste, and when the ground color of the fruit changes from dark to light green.
2. Hold fruit in common storage in a well ventilated shed for a period of two to six weeks according to the climate, e.g., for four to six weeks in a cold climate and for two to three weeks in a hot climate.
3. Enclose Apples in oiled paper containing not less than 14 per cent. of oil prior to placing fruit in cold chamber.
4. Hold the fruit in a well-ventilated chamber at a temperature of 33 to 34 deg. Fahr.
5. Do not hold for long periods fruit which has been harvested from young trees, nor from any trees (young or old) which are only carrying a light crop.
6. For long storage obtain fruit from matured trees growing in light soil which are carrying a normal crop. This particularly applies to districts in which the rainfall is heavy.
7. Do not hold the fruit too long in common storage, for an excessive delayed storage period has a tendency to

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TOPS AND BOTTOMS . . . . 17 x 8 1,000's

### CANADIAN CASES—

SIDES . . . . . 17 x 10 1,000's

TOPS AND BOTTOMS . . . . 17 x 11 1,000's

### PEARS—

SIDES . . . . . 13 x 6 1,000's

TOPS AND BOTTOMS . . . . 13 x 12 500's

Also Combination Packs of:—

DUMPS CANADIAN PEARS  
(500 17 x 13) (500 17 x 10) (334 13 x 6)  
(500 17 x 8) (500 17 x 11) (334 13 x 12)



encourage the development of lenticel spot and other fungal rots. In addition, the skin of the fruit becomes too yellow and the cold storage life is greatly reduced.

#### Acknowledgement.

We would like to place on record our great appreciation of the valuable assistance given us in carrying out these experiments by Mr. H. V. Smith, general manager of the Bat-

low Packing House and Cool Stores Co-operative Society Ltd., and Mr. H. Potchell, Chief Engineer, Batlow Cool Store. Their hearty co-operation in the work and the keen interest taken by them, was greatly appreciated.

We would also like to express our appreciation to those growers from whom supplies of fruit were obtained, for their willingness at all times to assist us in the work.

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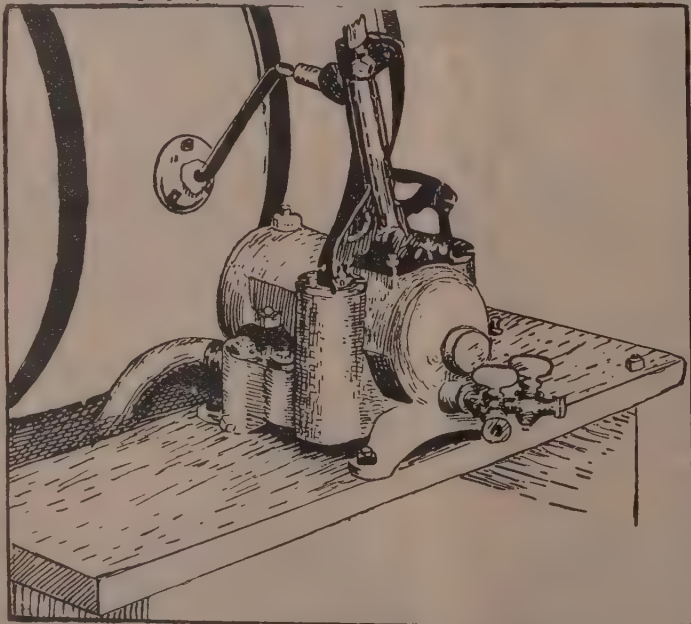
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## How the Laboratory Helps

### UTILISING CULL ORANGES

THE most important factor in farming, if farmers are to make a fair living, is the marketing of the crops. One of the greatest helps in marketing crops is having them processed so that they can be sold as widely as possible. Therefore the development of new methods of treating various farm products is most important.

It is here that the work of research co-operates with production. The two branches of the fruit industry are closely related. Unfortunately Australia is not as well serviced in this connection as are certain other countries. In the United States this department is highly organised, and the work of the fruit products laboratory of the University of California, in developing new uses for fruit, is consequently very important. Unfortunately, this work is not as well known as it should be. Some things that have been accomplished recently to help fruit growers of the State should be better known, declares D. J. Whitney, in "California Cultivator."

To take only one instance of the value of the laboratory to the producer, let us quote

#### Canned Orange Juice.

The possibility of canning Orange juice has long interested the canners. Fresh Orange juice is delicious. A very large percentage of the Oranges sold fresh are not eaten, but the juice is extracted and drunk. This is particularly true of the Valencia. If it were possible to extract the juice at the point of origin; put it in cans and ship it to the consumer, to be used when desired; much freight and hand-

ling costs might be saved, and the consumption of Oranges increased. The difficulty for years has been that although the fresh Orange juice was delightful, no way to process it so that it would not become bitter, and otherwise unpalatable was known.

The fruit products laboratory after long experimentation worked out a satisfactory method for canning Orange juice so that it would preserve its fine quality and flavor.

The laboratory has worked out methods of putting up other very fine fruit products and fresh fruit juice of other kinds, which have not been adopted commercially, though ultimately they may be. The Orange juice process has not met this fate, it is being adopted by the canner rapidly. Twenty concerns, including two of the best known and successful canning and packing concerns in California, are now canning Orange juice commercially, to market all over the United States. If some new variety of Peach or Grape were developed which the buyers were delighted to buy, it is certain that great rejoicing would be had, as well as much publicity. The development of a market for thousands of tons of Oranges would seem to call for similar rejoicing.

If the use of this process could be limited strictly to the handling of what are now cull Oranges so that the fresh fruit shipments would have complete right of way over the canned juice, the canning of the juice would still be an important thing. However, there is reason to believe that developments may be far greater than this.

## GRAPE FRUIT CULTURE

### VARIETIES DISCUSSED

In reply to numerous enquiries received by the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, the Fruit Branch makes the following statement in the current "Agricultural Notes." Regarding the possibilities of growing Grape Fruit, especially in coastal areas, it is stated that in view of the difficulties being experienced by many growers with small areas with Marsh variety (and Thompson will be similar) in satisfactorily producing well-grown, large-sized fruit (56-72), it is inadvisable to plant these varieties. The only exceptions are perhaps where the soils are of a very light, deep sandstone character. Even there the probability is that blemishes caused by insect pests and fungous diseases will greatly reduce the returns as compared with fruit having much greater freedom from such attack in inland districts.

The Wheeny variety appears likely to supersede Marsh or Thompson in most coastal districts. This variety is a much more vigorous grower, but not such a heavy cropper as Marsh and it readily attains a satisfactory large size. In fact on young trees its size is almost excessive. Its thin rim compensates largely for the great number of seeds borne (30 to 40). Its flavor it is very acid unless it is allowed to mature well, when the sweet acid flavor and abundant juice make it much more desirable.

#### GAZETTE NOTICE.

Newcastle Fruit and Produce Co. Ltd., The (in liq.).—To Alfred A. Bors, liquidator, 69 Hunter-street, Newcastle; October 26.

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## ANNUAL REPORTS

Many Companies Show Profits.  
Optimistic Outlook Disclosed.

With the financial year of most fruit processing companies ending in October, it is with great satisfaction that profits can be reported in each case of those whose annual reports are available. Whilst the net profits fluctuate with the amount of business conducted, many plants have had to extend their premises and equipment, and all look forward to increased turnover in the coming year. Attention is directed to the brief reports which follows:—

### Shepparton Fruit Preserving Co. Ltd.

The Chairman of Directors (Mr. A. W. Fairley), in presenting the annual report, stated that, in spite of difficult conditions, the turnover for the year ending October 31 had almost reached the record established in the previous year. A profit of £29,361/16/10 had been made, exclusive of taxation and depreciation, which latter was higher than usual, because of extensive rebuilding operations.

Dividends of 12½ per cent. on ordinary shares absorbed £10,925, and 6 per cent. on preference shares to the amount of £2,617 was authorised. Extra payments to growers amounted to £16,266.

### Henry Jones Co-operative Ltd.

Increased export trade and local sales resulting in an improvement in profits was reported by the Chairman, Mr. A. W. Palfreyman, at the 20th annual meeting. Dividends amounting to £53,631/10/- were declared. These represented 9d. per share from Commonwealth trade, and 1d. per share from export trade. A

record in employees' wages was created during the year under report, ending October 31.

### Rosella Preserving and Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

For the year ending September 30, the company made a net profit of £43,603 as compared with £39,042 in the previous year, according to their annual report. This represents the best results since 1928, and the dividend declared, 10 per cent., represents the third successive year in which the dividend had been raised by 1 per cent. Dividends totalling £37,000 were declared, and, in addition, the directors approved of the issuing of 30,000 20/- shares at 25/- each to present shareholders in proportion to those already held.

### Kyabram Co-op. Fruit Preserving Co. Ltd.

In presenting the annual report, the Chairman, Mr. R. H. Gent, stated that a good year had been experienced, and a net profit of £10,018, exclusive of taxation and depreciation, had been recorded.

### Ardmona Fruit Products Co-op. Co. Ltd.

A net profit of £6,269 was reported for the year ending October 31. This was a decrease in profit from the previous year and was accounted for by less favorable conditions. Although the total turnover was greater than in 1935, the margin of profit was considerably reduced. All things considered, the directors report that a satisfactory year can be recorded, and that the company is in a sound financial position.

## EXPORTS OF CANNED FRUIT to November 30th

The following particulars of Australian canned fruits exported from January 1 to November 30 are supplied by the Secretary, Canned Fruits Control Board. The different varieties are expressed in dozens of 30 oz. tins or equivalent.

Country.	Apricots.	Peaches.	Pears.	Fruit Salad.	Pine-apples.	Total.
U.K. . . . .	263,902	884,696	697,690	—	17,675	1,863,963
N.Z. . . . .	40,090	66,752	4,492	34	4,677	116,045
Canada . . . .	22,786	149,368	18,040	6,704	23,766	220,664
East . . . . .	6,700	15,196	11,524	2,164	98	35,682
Misc. . . . .	1,232	2,998	3,796	78	472	8,576
Total . . . . .	334,710	1,119,010	735,542	8,980	46,688	2,244,930

### POROSITY IN TINPLATE.

Pores in hot-dipped tin-coatings on steel are one of the chief problems of tinsplate manufacture. As a preliminary to the study of their causes, A. W. Hothersall and J. C. Prytherch have examined tinsplate of various grades, and have established a connection between the location of the pores and surface peculiarities and imperfections such as scuff bands and grease marks. In tinsplate withdrawn from the top of the grease-pot without passing through the cleaning or polishing rolls, 75 per cent. of the pores were located in scuff bands and grease marks. With tinsplates carrying more than 3 lbs. of tin per basis box, there were no scuff bands and the largest grease marks, grouped in periodic bands across the sheet, contained practically all the pores except those which were associated with scratches. The scuff bands appear to be caused by chatter of the grease-pot rolls, or by slight periodic slip between the roll and the tinsplate surfaces.

These factors have an important bearing upon the quality of the tinsplate used in the manufacture of cans for the canned fruit industry. A tin can is not only useful for holding foods of various kinds, but must be of such substance that no harmful effects will result from contact of the food with

tin. Canning has arrived at such a state of perfection that canned fruit is becoming increasingly popular, and the old fear that canned foods were dangerous has been exploded. Only the best quality tinsplate is used in Australian canning factories.

### EXPORT PRICES REDUCED.

#### Assistance Increased.

Forced by exceptionally difficult circumstances, the Fruit Industries Sugar Concessions Committee have found it necessary to declare a reduction of £2 per ton for Peaches for canning during the 1937 season. Factors that have caused this action include an influx of American canned fruit on the British market, and an unusually heavy carry-over of Australian Pears from the 1936 season, plus the experience, in England, of the coldest and wettest summer for 45 years.

It is anticipated that this enforced reduction will result in the clearance of all export surpluses with more satisfactory conditions to follow. The minimum prices are quoted elsewhere and are subject to review at a later date.

Assistance for canned products (Peaches, Pears and Pineapples) has been increased from £50,000 to £60,000 to cover carry-over stocks from 1936, and an advance payment of 3d. per dozen 30 oz. tins for the 1936 export season.

### 1937 PRICES FOR FRUIT.

#### Peaches and Pears Down.

The minimum prices set for fruit submitted to canneries during the coming season are as follow:—

#### For Fruit Canning.

Apricots, per ton, £12; Clingstone Peaches (clear centred varieties), £10, other £9; Freestone Peaches, £7; Pears, £8; Keiffers, £6; Pineapples, 4 lbs. or over, 4/6 per case, under 4 in., 7/- per case. Prices quoted are for delivery at growers' railway sidings or to canneries in the growers' district.

#### For Jam Making.

Delivered at metropolitan factories: Apricots, per ton, £10; Peaches, £7; Plums, £7; Quinces, £7. Deliveries to country factories £1 per ton less in each case.

This represents a reduction for Peaches and Pears of £2 per ton below last year's prices, but Apricots remain at the same figure.

### CANNED GREEN PEAS.

#### Most Popular in America.

In their inimitable way, American canning factories evolve many and ingenious methods of checking up on what the buying public demand, then set themselves out to attempt to supply that demand.

One company recently conducted a "straw ballot" by having a representative call on housewives with the absurd question: "If you stole anything from your favorite grocer, what would you take?" 515 women were asked this hypothetical question, of whom four replied "the cash register," whilst 511 answered "canned Green Peas!"

Of course, the investigation was absurd, but it was claimed to demonstrate the popularity of Green Peas amongst a host of accessible varieties of canned vegetables. Green Peas in season are easily one of the most popular dishes and, with the aid of present-day canning methods, they can be enjoyed even in the off-season, thanks to canneries.

### YOUNG HAS NEW PRUNE SHED.

#### Extension of Cool Stores.

The Young (N.S.W.) and District Producers' Co-operative Association has just opened a fine new Prune shed at a cost of £1,600. The shed is close to the cool store siding and from it the Prunes, when graded and packed, will be railed to the Sydney floor. The shed required 160 cubic yards of concrete and 12 tons of iron. The Cool Stores Co-operative Society is also enlarging their present capacity by about 50 per cent.

## Our Prices are Definitely the Lowest

Being Direct Importers of Hardware, Garden Tools, Implements, Piping and Fittings, enables us to offer lines at the Very Lowest Prices.

Manures, Fodder, Bickford's Arsenate of Lead, and other Spray Materials. Garden Seeds of best quality in stock

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**TEACHING THE ART OF  
CANNING.**

150 Students.

A most successful annual school was conducted recently by the Utah (U.S.A.) Cannery Association. The attendance of 150 students represented factory operators, field men and

growers, and the studies included packing practices, label requirements, grading of fruit, cultural practice, plant diseases, crop varieties and insects. Some well-known canning experts gave addresses upon various phases of the industry. It demonstrated the thoroughness with which the American canneries educate their operatives.

**CANNING FIJI PINEAPPLES.**

C.S.R. Coy. Buys Two Plants.

It is reported that the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Ltd. has purchased the cannery and interests of the West Coast (Viti Levu) Pines and of the Fiji Pineapple Canning Company on the island of Ovalu.

It is considered by experts that Fiji Pineapples are as good for canning as those of any other producing country in the world. If the C.S.R. Company can develop the canning industry in the islands to what may be reasonably expected of it, it should be an asset to island trade, and put production on a permanently satisfactory plane.

**FRUIT JUICE MANUFACTURE.**

First Factory Opened.

The first fruit juice extracting factory to be operated under the National Mark in Bristol (Eng.) was officially opened by the Lord Mayor in July last. Experiments in producing commercial fruit juice from surplus fruit have been going on for several seasons at the Long Ashton Research Station, and it has been decided to commence operations on a large scale.

Strawberries and Raspberries, picked during a wet-weather spell, and slightly below jam standard, were converted into sparkling fruit juices to celebrate the opening of the factory. It is anticipated that other similar plants will shortly be equipped to handle surplus English small fruits.

Attractive Christmas cards are to hand from Mr. F. Larder and staff, of the Docks and Overseas Trade Department of the London and North-Eastern Railway, London, and Messrs. Dan Wuille and Co. Ltd., London, whose good wishes are heartily reciprocated.

**HOW MANY APPLES DID ADAM  
AND EVE EAT IN THE GARDEN?**

The Bible story reports only one, and puts all the blame upon Eve, but a discussion at a friend's place the other night increased the harvest considerably. Smith is one of those people who likes to show off his knowledge or smartness. He gave the answer as 10, since Eve ate and Adam too. Robinson said that Smith's argument was weak, what really happened was that Eve 8 and Adam 8 and the answer was 16.

Brown said that Robinson's total was more correct than Smith's, but that both were wrong, because Eve 8 and Adam 82, which made a total of 90.

By this time everybody was entering into the fun of a mathematical problem, had quite forgotten the biblical origin of the question, and were propounding various learned (or otherwise) theories. Mrs. Larkin who seldom descends to such frivolity put forward the argument that the answer was 893, because Eve 81 and Adam 812.

It sounded rather conclusive until Jim Parker, one of our neighbours discovered that Eve 814 Adam and Adam 8124 Eve, and the total jumped to 8,934.

Then came Miss Prim, a school teacher, who had been deep in thought for some time, and who said "Now here's the answer. You see Eve 8142 see how it tasted, and Adam 28142 see if Eve's enthusiasm was warranted by the new fruit, so the real total is 36,284."

I believe Smith would have staged a come-back had not our hostess announced supper at that time. But it just shows you what wonderfully productive orchards they had in those days.

Smithson: I hesitate to mention it, Mrs. Greylocks, but your husband owed me ten shillings when he died. Widow: Really! It's nice for you to have something to remember him by.

# L. J. WICKS

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If You are Planting

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You Are Thinking  
Bud Selection

The FRESHFORD ORCHARDS comprise 60 Acres of bearing Citrus, Stone Fruits, Pears, Apples, Loquats, Quinces, Walnuts, Almonds, Persimmons, etc.

BUD SELECTION is Easy and Natural under these conditions.

CITRUS TREES all worked on Sweet Orange  
or Seville StockBUDDED WALNUTS — The World's Best  
Commercial VarietiesPEACHES & APRICOTS a Speciality  
STANDARD ROSES

CATALOGUE ON APPLICATION.

INSPECTION INVITED.



View of a portion of the  
orchards of  
Frank Walker, Lalla,  
Tasmania.



## South Australian Fruit Marketing Association Incorporated

A MONTHLY meeting of members held at Adelaide on Friday, November 27, 1936.

Messrs. J. S. Hammat, J. B. Randell, M. G. Basey, F. B. James, P. R. Searcy, D. Norsworthy, F. F. Redden, E. S. Mason, A. R. Willsmore, A. J. Petersen, R. S. McDougall, G. Mack, and the Secretary.

Apologies were received from Messrs. H. J. Bishop, A. G. Strickland, R. A. Cramond, H. N. Wicks.

Mr. J. B. Randell occupied the chair.

**Finance:** Financial statement was submitted by Secretary, and received. Accounts passed for payment as per list, £34/5/10. It was agreed to give consideration at the next meeting to the advisability of investing part of the available funds.

**Pear Space:** Letter from Mr. H. J. Bishop re Pear space was read, and the Secretary advised that application had been made for space for 15,000 to 20,000 cases of Williams Pears in early February both to the O.S.R.A., Adelaide and Sydney, and Sydney had replied that the request was noted but it was too early to advise definitely yet. Mr. Bishop would also interview the Secretary of the O.S.R.A. during his visit to Sydney, and he would be back to attend a meeting of all shippers' to be held on Thursday, December 3.

Secretary was instructed to write the canners and ask whether the factories would be buying this season.

### Correspondence.

Letter dated November 13, from Department of Agriculture, enclosing copy of return showing details of shipments of fresh fruits from South Australia to overseas markets during year ended June 30, 1936.

Mr. A. O. Petersen reported that the Sub-Committee had agreed to call a meeting of representatives of cold stores at 1.30 p.m., on Friday, December 18, with a view to forming a Committee to collect statistics re quantities and varieties of Apples in cool store for the purpose of assisting in regulating the market. It was considered that the statistics available at present were received too late to be of real value. This meeting to take the place of the ordinary monthly meeting of the Research Sub-Committee.

It was agreed to ask Mr. M. Vickers if he would give a short address to members at the meeting of December 18, giving his impressions of the Apple industry overseas and information gained during his recent trip to Great Britain.

The monthly meeting of the Executive of the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association Inc., was held at Adelaide on December 18, 1936.

There were present: Messrs. J. S. Hammat, F. B. James, W. W. Miller, M. Vickers, R. G. Hannaford, F. F. Redden, A. G. Strickland, A. R. Willsmore, S. M. James, A. Brealey, R. O. Knappstein, A. O. Petersen, M. G. Basey, G. Quinn, and the Secretary.

In the absence of the President, Mr. F. B. James was elected chairman.

**Field Day:** Mr. M. G. Basey stated that Mr. Fowler had suggested that the annual field day might be held at the Blackwood Orchard in conjunction with their field day, and it was resolved:

"That subject to the consent of the Department of Agriculture, the

S.A.F.M.A. field day be incorporated with the annual field day at the Blackwood Orchard in February next." Carried.

**Pears:** Mr. A. R. Willsmore asked that a request should be made to Mr. Strickland to obtain from the Department of Commerce permission to export "Lemon Bergemot" Pears, which do not appear at present on any lists. Mr. Strickland undertook to do this.

**Research Sub-Committee:** Mr. F. B. James, reported that the Research Sub-committee recommended the formation of a Cold Stores Sub-committee, comprised of representatives of cold stores, for the purpose of collecting statistics to assist in regulating and distributing local supplies of Apples.

The recommendation was approved and the first meeting of the sub-committee will be held in lieu of the ordinary research meeting on January 29, at 1.30 p.m.

**Mr. Vickers' Address:** Owing to so many members being unavoidably absent, Mr. Vickers kindly consented to postpone his address on his impressions of the Apple industry overseas to the January meeting.

### GAS STORAGE OF FRUIT.

#### Successful Tests With New Process.

Exhaustive tests carried out at the Municipal Markets in Sydney with the Elgin gas process for storing fruit and vegetables are of considerable interest to sections of the food industry, says "Food" (Vic.).

In November last, permission was granted by the Municipal Council of Sydney to the Elgin Gas Corporation to allow storage tests to be carried out at the Cold Storage Works, under the supervision of the Supt. of Markets (Mr. Willis Williams, F.C.S.).

The basis of the process is the introduction of carbon dioxide into the storage room after being treated in a special tank. The object is to delay the maturing of fruit and vegetables with a view to keeping the produce in a state whereby it can be marketed, or processed, without any fear of collapse. The claim is made by the company that gas stored fruit has held its condition for at least fourteen days longer than that which was placed in the ordinary cold store.

Elgin gas is produced where it is used, and is made into CO<sub>2</sub> with a special machine, the materials used being sulphuric acid and bicarbonate of soda. The acid is filtered into a container through glass wool, pure soda and water being used. The gas then is carried by piping to a second tank, where it is scrubbed and converted into another anhydride gas. This is said to have more penetrative qualities and does not cause breakdown if there is an over-supply. The gas proceeds via an automatic equaliser to a dehumidifier, whence it is taken in pipes to various rooms at any desired volume or velocity. The cost is declared not to exceed 4/- per 1,000 cubic feet, as against an alleged cost of 50/- for ordinary CO<sub>2</sub>. The running costs of the plant are declared to be about 50 per cent. of those incurred in ordinary refrigeration.

So far the tests with most fruits have been quite successful, some cases having been retained in good condition for upwards of three months. A most satisfactory feature of the tests is the prolonged period for which gas-stored fruit has remained in marketable condition after removal from the chambers.

## South Australia.

THE FORTHCOMING REFERENDUM — FIELD DAY AT BERRI — MUCH CARE NEEDED IN CINCTURING WASHINGTON NAVEL ORANGE TREES — MANURING CITRUS TREES — VINE PRUNING SYSTEMS COMPARED — REMEDY FOR MOTTLE LEAF OF CITRUS — CITRUS STORAGE PROBLEMS BEING INVESTIGATED.

RENMARK, Dec. 19, 1936.

BY THE TIME these notes are in print it will be in the early part of the year, and I would like to wish all my brother fruit growers a very Happy New Year, and a more successful one than the last. There is a fellow feeling among fruit growers, whether they are in the fresh fruit production, or the dried fruit business, and the difficulties of one section is followed with a good deal of sympathetic understanding by the other.

All the problems confronting us with regard to the production of a high-class article are quite sufficient to occupy our minds without having to trouble our thoughts about the marketing side of the business.

In the past, our dried fruits industry has been so well organised that the marketing side of the business was left in the hands of merchants and dealers working in close co-operation with the growers' own organisations, which worked quite satisfactorily through well-established trade channels. Having the matter of distribution taken from our shoulders, we were able to concentrate on production problems and thereby were able to develop cultural practices which have proved highly satisfactory and given good results.

Since the adverse decision in the James case, which has upset our marketing organisation, the rank and file of growers have perforce been obliged to take a more active interest in the distribution outlook.

The forthcoming Referendum on marketing, is of vital interest to the dried fruit grower, and upon which the successful future of the industry depends.

Our interest in this referendum does not lie in seeking additional powers, but merely to a return of the regulations which were in force before the Privy Council decision. These regulations have been in force for the past eleven years and have worked in the interest of the grower. The successful issue of the referendum is taken seriously by the returned soldiers, a great number of whom have been repatriated in the irrigation

areas and at the last monthly meeting the following resolution was passed: "That the sub-branch approves the proposal to circularise all returned men and that they be requested to vote YES at the forthcoming referendum."

The annual field day took place at the Government Experimental Orchard, Berri, on December 8. Between 60 and 70 growers availed themselves of the opportunity of reviewing the year's work as outlined by Mr. N. Fotheringham, manager, as he led growers from one experimental plot to another. The annual field day usually attracts from 100 to 150 growers, but as there was an irrigation in progress both at Berri and Renmark, many growers could not attend on that account.

Citrus growers have learned a great deal from the various experiments carried out at this orchard, and it has been proved from years of experimentation that although cincturing the Washington Navel Orange gives a better return than the uncinctured tree, it must be done with the greatest of care and judgment, and only the very vigorous trees should be done when about two-thirds of the blossoms have fallen.

If trees are cinctured year after year, they lose a great deal of their vitality, and it was quite noticeable to compare the cinctured with the uncinctured trees, in fact, some of the trees in the cinctured plot had to be left uncinctured for a number of years to allow them to recover their lost vitality.

### Citrus Manuring.

In the manurial trials on citrus trees, it was found that up to 10 cwt. of superphosphates alone has no advantage over the unmanured plot, but directly sulphate of ammonia or stable manure is added, the trees respond immediately. The nitrogen factor is a big one in the manuring of citrus.

At one point, Mr. A. G. Strickland (Chief Horticultural Instructor) pointed out that citrus trees were also in very great need of organic matter, and this could be applied by either growing a leguminous or non-legu-

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APPLE AND PEAR STORAGE.

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minous cover crop, which ever could be most successfully grown, but as there was little space between rows to grow a cover crop of any kind in an old orchard, the best way of applying organic matter is with stable manure; the next best is straw, or old lucerne, in fact, anything of that kind that will eventually become incorporated with the soil.

Another interesting field trial is that laid down on the orchard of Mr. C. Plush, where trials by replication have begun, this should eventually prove most helpful as it obviates the error due to soil variations.

Trials in various methods of pruning vines shows some definite results.

Over a period of 19 years the Currant vines pruned on the espalier system show a decidedly bigger crop than those pruned on the cordon system.

The espalier system has arms running in both directions, while the cordon system has the main stem running only in one direction. The two armed espalier beats the cordon system in crop returns, and the three-armed espalier beats the two-armed espalier. Currants trained on a T-arm trellis have not equalled in returns that of the three-armed espalier, but the T-arm trellis pruned with rod and spur has given the heaviest return of all.

Although this last system has given the best crop, the quality of the fruit is not comparable with any of the other systems, and is therefore not to be recommended on that account.

Manurial trials on vines at the present time do not show any outstanding directions for general field recommendations, but there are indications that the nitrogen factor will eventually prove a dominating one. The manurial trials were laid down on a plot of land which had for many years been a lucerne patch, and the organic matter left by the decayed roots has benefited all plots alike. As this in-

fluence becomes lessened, there may be some definite results to relate later on, there are, however, signs at present of the "no manure" plots lagging behind, which might indicate that the organic matter is now becoming depleted.

Many more matters of interest were elaborated upon by Mr. Fotheringham, and directing the visitors over the various plots of vines, such as, cineturing of Sultanas, which could not be recommended, tipping of Sultanas, which in the past three years has given a little increase in crop. Depressed Sultana canes had given a little better crop than the elevated canes. Gordos placed on trellis and pruned as espaliers, had given bigger crops than the bush variety and cordon system.

Visitors were entertained at tea on the orchard premises, after which the evening session was taken by Mr. A. G. Strickland, who dealt with what he termed "Odds and Ends," but the greater part of the address constituted information on what is known as storage breakdown in citrus fruits.

Before getting on to this subject, as a matter of general interest, Mr. Strickland outlined the experiments being carried out on Mr. S. McIntosh's Pear orchard and the fight against codlin moth. Seven different trials had been instituted. Some with varying amounts of arsenate of lead to try and arrive at an optimum quantity: white oil and arsenate combination, white oil following arsenate of lead, Bentonite clay mixed with nicotine sulphate. This clay is of a colloidal nature mined in America and named after the man (Benton) who discovered it. Having the capacity of absorbing any insecticide, it therefore keeps it effective over a longer period than is otherwise possible. Something new in the control of codlin moth is the use of Thiox, which has given definite results in America,

and may revolutionise the treatment of Apple and Pear control if it proves effective in this country. I believe Thiox is the trade name for what is known in America as Phenothiozine, which is quite harmless to human beings, while being deadly to insect life. As it may take some few years to arrive at definite results, Pear growers can look forward with hope for some relief from trouble with arsenical residue if this insecticide proves a success.

Mr. Strickland related an interesting experiment on the property of Mr. Jungfer, at Berri, with spraying unthrifty mottle leafed Washington Navel trees with a solution of sulphate of zinc. This experiment was quite a "hit in the dark," to prove whether a zinc deficiency existed. The response was quite surprising, especially in view of the fact that the trees were badly affected with citrus nematode, and this might reasonably be suspected of being a contributing cause to the unthrifty condition of the trees. However, the trees responded to the zinc treatment and Mr. Strickland said that they had now reached the stage when he would like to see this method carried out all over the State to find out whether they reacted in the same way in other parts.

Spraying was preferable in early Spring, and in place of zinc sulphate, zinc oxide is now used, making a spraying strength of 3 lbs. zinc oxide to 100 gals. water. Zinc oxide has now replaced zinc sulphate in all trials used for zinc deficiency.

The seriousness of allowing red scale to become a major pest was emphasised by Mr. Strickland, and he said that the Departmental Inspectors were taking energetic steps to enforce fumigation regulations before the spread of this pest became serious. White oil spray may account for a 70 to 80 per cent. clean-up, this was not good enough, and the Department insisted on fumigation. In Mypolonga, various white oil spraying trials had been made, and by a combination of white oil spray followed by fumigation, 99 per cent. to 100 per cent. kill had been obtained. "Daytime fumigation was not as effective as when done at night, and it was distinctly wrong," said the speaker. "Higher dosage could be given at night without impairing the health of the trees, and I would appeal to all societies responsible for arranging fumigation to insist on the work being done at night, a higher percentage of kill is obtained and is altogether more preferable."

.. ..

In 1934 the Commonwealth Parliament made a grant of £10,000 to the various citrus-producing States to carry out experiments in the control of blue mould, green mould and citrus storage spot, and to determine the temperatures at which citrus would obtain the longest storage life, and Mr. Strickland gave some interesting data upon the work done by his Department.

No finality could be reached in the time under which the fruit was supervised, but a good deal of progress had been made with the work in hand, which should prove of great benefit to the citrus industry. Mr. Strickland followed each experiment from every locality in detail, giving the storage life of fruit picked at different times. By the means of such trials, taking into consideration the maturity, it will be possible in the course of time to make definite recommendations on the storage life of citrus fruits under a given set of conditions.

Mr. Strickland held his audience interested for a couple of hours and had to answer many questions at the end of the address.—"Nemo."

## RENMARK FRUITGROWERS' CO-OP.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Renmark Fruit Growers' Co-op. took place on December 14 and a very satisfactory balance sheet was presented by Mr. H. D. Howie (chairman of committee).

In spite of the fact that during the past season severe loss occurred in the Currants and Sultanas owing to the rain in January last, the society's pack for this reason was eleven hundred tons of Currants short of 1935 pack and over a thousand tons of Sultanas short, it was therefore hoped that the good crops showing at present would not be subject to any "acts of God." It was confidently anticipated that stocks of last year's crop would be cleared before the new crop was harvested.

An up-to-date retail store was being erected on the freehold property on Murray Avenue, and the offices would be transferred from their present position to the side of the newly erected packing shed on Renmark Avenue.

The offices had been for many years on a leasehold property holding a commanding position on the River Murray bank, and this lease had been voluntarily vacated so that the Town Council could take it over to be used as a public reserve, and in view of its locality should add to one of the beauty spots of the town.

The moving of the offices and erection of the new store entailed a good deal of expenditure, but as this outlay had not strained the financial reserves of the Society, it showed a gratifying position. It has been the custom for a number of years past of the Society to give prizes for the best quality fruit delivered by its members, and the following were awarded best two varieties of vine fruits—not less than eight tons:—R. Fisher—as Mr. Fisher had won this prize for three years in succession, he was awarded the handsome "Gibbs Bright" Cup, in addition to his two guinea cash prize; Currants, not less than four tons, P. A. John; Sultanas (do.), M. Pethick; Lexias (do.), V. Anderson.

### Dried Tree Fruits.

Apricots, F. L. and N. McDougall; Peaches, Mr. Berwick; Pears, J. Johnson; Nectarines, M. B. Geniste.

Mr. Howie dwelt at some length on the present position of the marketing position of dried fruits owing to the breakdown of the organised channels of distribution, and urged upon each individual grower to extend his activities in favor of the referendum.

After answering a number of questions, the following resolution was moved by Major Lott and seconded by Mr. H. G. Evans:

"We, the members of the Renmark Fruit Growers' Co-operated Limited, request the co-operation of the members for the district, the Hon. M. McIntosh, Mr. Stott, M.P., and Hon. C. A. S. Hawker, M.H.R., towards the forthcoming referendum in obtaining a vote in its favor, as we view most seriously any adverse vote, as affecting our prospects."—"Nemo."

### COLD STORING VEGETABLES.

The New York State Experimental Station began a study of freezing vegetables four years ago, and will continue experiments for another year at least, specialising in Spinach, Peas and Corn on the cob. The blanching of Peas preparatory to freezing will be considered carefully as well as the changes during freezing of fruit in regard to pectin, protein and acidity, and the nutritive value of certain lines of frozen vegetables.

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# Victorian News and Notes

## ORCHARD REVIEWS (continued)

### DONCASTER .: BOX HILL .: BLACKBURN

(By Our Travelling Representative.)

August Thiele, of Tunstall-road, is also a descendant of pioneers who came to Victoria many years ago. Here again we see the splendid home, surrounded by well-kept hedges, lawns and flowers. To the south is the courtyard, with garage. Stores and packing houses all conveniently placed, and well sheltered. Installed in the packing depot is a "Harvey" washer and polisher, which Mr. Thiele declares is necessary under modern conditions.

Although not a large orchard (as orchards go in Doncaster), 25 acres—it is one of the most profitable. The average crops for a number of years are Pears 6,000, Apples 2,000, Lemons 1,000 cases per annum.

Stable manure is extensively used (especially for the Lemons), and 2:2:1 alternate year. The whole of the cultivation is mechanically done, and heavy cover crops turned under. The east-end of George-street is under Pears, Peaches, Apples and Plums, and was the property of the late Fred Zerbe, but is now worked conjointly by his sons, Albert and August. These 70 or 80 acres are in good fettle, a heavy cover crop having been turned in.

Next on the south side is Ed. Daws' property of 15 acres, which is worked by Mr. Daws, Jnr. Mr. Daws, Snr. devotes his time to poultry. Father and Son state that they get more definite results from the poultry manure than any other kind used on the orchard.

The writer called at several nearby orchards, but the owners were absent, and he was particularly disappointed in not seeing the patriarch, Reinhold Dehnert, who will be a centenarian in a few weeks' time.

John Finger, hale and hearty, ploughing out the strips (although nearly 70) on his 60-acre orchard, with frontages to George and Victoria-streets, believes in keeping only trees that are healthy on the place. As soon as deterioration begins he cuts them, and replants. There are plantings of Quinces, Figs, Peaches, Pears, Apples and Lemons, and no duds. The dams are enormous, and full of water. There are two very fine residences here, one fronting George and other Victoria-street.

The latter is leased to a business man, Vic. Reischiek, in King-street, who cultivates 20 acres of Pears, Peaches and Apples. Next on the rise is Mr. G. Beckley, with a 20-acre property of Peaches, Pears, Lemons, Apricots, Loquats and Plums. Here the Grand Duke have set well. Mr. Beckley is experimenting in various systems of poultry keeping, and intends making known the results.

Across Tucker's-road and facing King-street are the Beavis Bros., who cultivate 50 acres of mixed fruits here,

as well as 30 acres at Warrandyte. These brothers are extending their orchards which are an example of efficiency.

C. Johnston is opposite, with a compact 20 acres of Lemons, Peaches, and Pears; a natty garden and trellised Passion Fruit surrounding his comfortable home.

Proceeding west, the home of Mr. A. O. Bloom is reached. The orchard, 31 acres in extent, grows Pears, Peaches, Lemons and Cherries.

There are numerous outbuildings here, one fitted up with benches and tools. Mr. Bloom's two sons are mechanically minded, and have a special aptitude for this class of work.

Mr. Ubergang has an orchard property adjoining Bloom's, of similar dimensions. Here two men were spraying, taking advantage of the fine weather.

Further west is one of J. J. Tully's places (he resides in Victoria-street, just south of the Lutheran Church). This young orchard is in the pink of condition. Passing along the western boundary to the north, up hill to Serpells-road, the Rasmussens are reached. These brothers have a fine orchard of 35 acres. The land here is more friable than at E. Doncaster, and so is easier for cultivator to handle. This is a mixed orchard of Pears, Peaches, Lemons and Cherries. The brothers were finishing the ploughing, by taking out the strips with a Harvey single-furrow plough, which was the universal way before the advent of the Petty Plow.

Across Serpells-road, Mr. Beale has a plantation of Peaches, Pears and Apples, with prospects of a good crop. He lives on his other orchard property further west. Just about here there are quite a number of orchardists, and as the writer passed, were busy spreading manures. J. S. Read is one of these, and although his orchard is not a large one, he is able to keep the whole well cultivated and manured, and consequently his returns are payable. Lemons and Peaches are the principal fruits grown, the orchard house, sheds, and fences are all in apple-pie order. His brother, Robert, and D. Aumann, have orchards adjoining J. S. Read.

Retracing our steps, next to Rasmussen's is Mr. Ben Rhode's 20 acres of Pears and Peaches. This property is distinguished by its fine rows of Pinus insignis along Serpells-road. Opposite is Mr. Rhode's nephew, Mr. Smith.

Where Serpells-road turns into Tuckers-road is one of the entrances to W. R. Jenkin's 120-acre property; here are to be seen Pears, Peaches, Apples, Lemons and other varieties of fruit. Some of these are quite young plantations, while others are at the full profit stage. This orchard is cul-



A 12,000-case Cool Store on the orchard of Mr. V. Lawford, Springfield Road, Blackburn, Vic.

tivated by a power plant, and has its own cool store of 6,000 capacity under direct expansion, and as extra storage had to be obtained elsewhere, this store will have to be very much enlarged in the near future. From the homestead there is a magnificent panoramic outlook. On Main-road, Templestowe, Mr. Jenkins has another orchard of 20 acres, where principally Apples are grown and a good setting has resulted. Two sons assist the father and a younger one is growing up.

August Zerbe, who is now 75 years of age, resides at the apex of where the two roads, Andersons Creek and Blackburn, meet and form a point; here also is the E. Doncaster Hall, which stands on land that was part of Zerbe's property.

August (the father) has turned over this 50 acre orchard of Peaches Pears and Lemons to his sons, Albert and Walter, retaining 2½ acres for himself. The name of Zerbe has been associated with the Peach culture and propagation of varieties of this fruit for many years, the Peaches being named Zerbe 1, 2, 3, 5, 5, and 6, with Anzac as the topper, this variety first fruiting in 1915. August Zerbe was a Councillor for 27 years, but having his leg seriously injured in 1920, had to give up many activities.

Leaving the Zerbes behind, the writer called on a number of orchardists to the north. One of these was Mr. Sells, the blacksmith, who has an orchard as well, another being J. R. Craig, who was distributing B. and Bone manure amongst his Apples. He has 22 acres of orchard, comprised of Peaches, Pears, Plums, Cherries and Lemons.

W. J. Burrows, Blackburn-road, Doncaster East, has an orchard of 25 acres—Apples, Pears, Peaches, Plums and Cherries, which he works in conjunction with junior; is well cultivated, pruned and sprayed, and the natural drainage is good. Poultry manure is extensively used and cover crops turned in.

On the other side of the road is G. Prouse's property of 55 acres. The son is the orchardist here, and uses poultry, blood and stable manures. He and his wife were packing a good sample of Delicious and R. B. Apples for Victoria market. One part of the orchard showed some effects of the recent frosts.

The Aumann's have some splendid properties in East Templestowe, along the Main road and one can see success is achieved on the orchards.

### BOX HILL—BLACKBURN.

One of the closest orchards to the City of Box Hill is A. C. Cameron's, of Doncaster and Springfield roads. This 25-acre property has nice slopes, and is all pipe drained. The 7 acres of Lemons on Springfield-road has for years been noted for its heavy crops of fruit, and passers-by have admired (or otherwise) its boy-proof fence of barbed wire. The 10 acres of Peaches and 3 acres of Pears are showing fine growth, and have just begun to give returns. The remaining 5 acres are being properly prepared to Tomatoes, and will be in fine fettle for planting with Lemons next season.

The Aumanns have extensive properties on both sides of Doncaster-road and along Springfield-road, right up to Middleborough-road. All varieties of fruit suitable to the district are grown under expert management, the cultivation being done by power plant; right opposite Cameron's Lemons, the Aumanns have several acres under Rhubarb, from which heavy weekly crops are harvested.

Mr. V. Lawford's "Pottery Orchard," Springfield-road, Blackburn, is further east, and the name indicates the position to the tourist. The whole garden is planted with varieties of Pears, and large consignments are exported under the "Blue Moon Brand," from this 70-acre orchard, which stands supreme for its enormous dams, covering acres, from which the orchard can be irrigated by gravitation.

The frontage, of some acres, surrounding the home, has been left with the native timber standing, and forms an ideal watershed for the reservoirs and shelter for the homestead, thus creating a realistic country atmosphere around a splendid suburban home, with its exquisite flower beds, in which Mrs. Lawford delights.

The cool store to hold 12,000 cases was designed by Mr. Lawford, and is unique in its construction—being two-storied. Many labor-saving devices have been installed. Automatic conveyors (made by D. Harvey, of Box Hill), carry the fruit to the upper chambers and elsewhere, as required; a hundred cases are transferred in a few minutes.

The packing house, with ample window lighting by day and electricity by night is equipped with everything necessary, including a "Harvey Washer." This machine is spoken of in praiseworthy terms. Here again the cultivation is done by mechanical means, and heavy cover crops are

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turned under, the "Petty Wonder Plough" being in evidence.

Opposite are Gill & Sons' orchards. The junior has built a fine new residence on the N.E. corner of the property, but unfortunately for the writer, these orchardists were not at home.

E. H. Pearce's is next door, with a row of large Pines along the northern frontage. This forms a fine break for the hot north winds. Looking towards Doncaster, the well-known orchards of Koonung-road are showing for a good crop of Apples and Pears—Jonathans, Gravensteins, B. Bose and W.B.C. having set well.

The Southern Victoria Pear Packing Co., with its offices in Railway-road, Blackburn, supplies its members with all orchard requisites, packs and exports their fruits, and arranges for the disposal (through its representative, Mr. Garford, in England) in the best selling centres. This fruit is sold under the red, blue, and green "Moon" labels. Through this system, each consignment is uniform in grade, and holds the confidence of the buyers.

#### Gippsland Crops.

Bairnsdale, 21/11/36. — Prospects for the coming fruit crop are reported by Mr. G. W. Peart (Goodman's Nurseries) as follows:—

Apricots: Light. Apples: Medium to light. The yield for the district will be much below that of 1936, which was exceptionally good. Peaches: Good. Pears: Good. Plums: Fair to good.

Taking all sorts into consideration, there will be much below an average crop on North and East Gippsland.

Quantong (3/12/36): Mr. C. H. Jost reports crop prospects as follows:—Apricots: Very light. Peaches: Heavy. Pears: Medium. Plums: Heavy. Tomatoes: Heavy, but late. Quinces: Medium. Apples: Light.

#### PROSECUTIONS.

Prosecutions by the Department of Agriculture under the Vine and Vegetation Diseases Act, show that both retailers and growers have been fined for various offences.

Amongst the growers the offences included:—Selling Oranges affected with Red Scale, selling Apples affected with Codlin Moth and Black Spot, failure to comply with notice to eradicate Mussel Scale, exposing for sale Apples affected with Codlin Moth.

The offences were committed at Merbein, Mildura, Panton Hills, Bittern, Bayswater and Harcourt.

Retailers were fined for selling Tomatoes and Apples topped.

#### FRUIT DRINKS.

##### Castlemaine Supply.

A recent issue of "Castlemaine Mail" reports the arrival of Caves pure fruit drinks in that city. As part of the progressive development of the pure fruit juice service to Victoria, Mr. Fred Cave advises that arrangements have been made for all varieties of Cave's pure fruit drinks to be available at Miss Barker's Tea Rooms, in Barker-street.

Apple, Pineapple, Banana, Raspberry, Passion Fruit, Pear, Orange, Grape, Strawberry and other varieties are now being made at the company's factory in anticipation of increased demand during the Summer.

## TASMANIA

PEARS PROSPECTS NOW BELOW NORMAL — APPLE PROSPECTS GOOD — SPRAYING AND PEST CONTROL — REWORKING AND SUMMER PRUNING.

SEASONABLE INFORMATION regarding fruit cultural conditions in Tasmania are to hand in a report from the Chief Horticulturist (Mr. P. H. Thomas), under date December 11, as follows:—

**Weather and Crop Prospects.**—Rainfall for the month was on the whole below average, particularly in the north, but soil moisture conditions in fruit areas are in the main satisfactory. Hobart recordings were 192 points, as compared with the average 246; Franklin 278 as compared with 305; and Launceston 116 as compared with 185.

Some heavy winds were experienced early in the month, which did considerable damage to Raspberries and two days of hot northerlies have undoubtedly contributed towards the severe drop experienced on Pears and certain varieties of Apples.

Last month a heavy blossoming of almost all varieties of Apples and Pears was reported, but although the initial set on Pears appeared to be good, the extensive drop, particularly on Glou Moreceau and Comice, has reduced the prospects to rather less than average.

Many varieties of Apples, however, are carrying heavy crops, though with this fruit, too, certain varieties, notably Cox and Alfriston, have shed a fair proportion of the young fruit.

Plums are looking well and Apricots though light, should, under average weather conditions reach a very high standard in quality.

Recent rains have benefited all berry fruits, green Gooseberries being well developed and Strawberries sizing up nicely.

Injury from hail is reported throughout the Channel and around Lymington and Bruny Island, some areas showing up to as high as 50 per cent. injury. It is probable, however, that as the damage was done at an early date, a proportion of the fruit will grow out of the injury, and, when thinning, the most damaged fruits can be removed from the clusters.

#### Spraying and Pest Control.

Rainfall, as already mentioned, was below average for the month, and up to the present time, where correct spraying treatments have been applied, comparatively little spot is in evidence. This is in direct contrast to last year, when the November orchard notes reported serious outbreaks of spot; nevertheless, growers should not allow themselves to be lulled into a sense of false security.

Pear Spot is common in many orchards, and it has been remarked that

the trees appear to have been more subject to Bordeaux injury than heretofore. This is of interest, for several Apple growers have also experienced an undue amount of scorching in their orchards this season. Present weather conditions and constitutional weakness in the trees following the severe drought last year have been advanced as possible reasons.

In regard to insect pests, Red Spider is prevalent in some areas, and Summer oils have been incorporated with the Codlin Moth sprays for control. It is interesting to note that where nicotine sulphate—1 pint to 80 gallons—has been incorporated with post-blossom sprays for Canary Fly not only has an excellent kill of the latter been obtained, but Spider is negligible.

Green Peach Aphis has been worse this year than for many seasons, and tar-distillates will be required next Winter for proper control. Nicotine sulphate and soft soap, if driven into the leaf clusters under pressure will kill this pest, and where trees are carrying a crop, an immediate application of this spray is advised.

Pear and Cherry "Slug" has been noted from several localities. This pest is easily controlled by applying arsenate of lead powder at a strength of 1 lb. to 40 gallons, a little flour paste will increase the efficiency of the spray. If the control measures are neglected complete defoliation and loss of crop may result; or, at least, a much reduced yield.

The Canary Fly is now on the wing, and little can be done for satisfactory control until the second brood is in the larval stage towards the end of January.

#### Re-Working.

This operation has now been completed, and a large acreage has been changed over in the aggregate this Spring to the more popular varieties. Most scions are coming away nicely, and growers must now concentrate attention on the removal of unnecessary shoots, and growths of the old variety. In exposed situations growths from such grafts should be pinched back to about twelve inches so that wind damage may be avoided.

#### Summer Pruning.

The practice of restricting growth during the growing season is not recommended on an extensive scale, but much good may be done by judicious application. In young trees the tops may be balanced by pinching the tips of the most vigorous growths back, thus enabling the remainder of the branches to catch up. All inside growths should be removed, and the sap thus turned into the production of a larger and stronger framework during the same season. In mature trees where color is required, excessive leaves and shoots may be removed at intervals; if this is left late the only color obtained on the fruit will be sunburn, and in severe cases discolored corky areas. The practice should not be carried to an excess, as the trees may be materially weakened.

#### Neglected Areas.

Work has been continued on the matter of neglected and unprofitable areas, and during the month some 50 acres were cut down or grubbed out. It is expected that fully 100 acres will be dealt with during the next month, as there are several areas under immediate consideration.

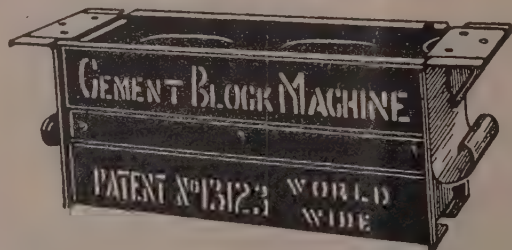
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# Letters to the Editor

1937 FRUIT SPACE ALLOTMENTS — THE COMING REFERENDUM  
— FREIGHT QUESTION AND TRADE WITH GERMANY —

## 1937 FRUIT SPACE ALLOTMENTS.

he Editor,

ir,  
After obtaining fruit crop estimates and other data from the various states, the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council will presumably make their recommendations shortly regarding the refrigerated tonnage required to lift the exportable surplus during the 1937 season, also the overseas destinations for which space should be reserved.

Despite the unfavorable experience of growers and speculative importers as the result of glutting the London market early in recent export seasons, the belief has apparently been held in each succeeding year that some miracle would happen, and that somehow London would succeed in unloading surplus stocks on to other markets without generally depressing prices.

Having regard to past experience, it will be interesting to note whether fruit tonnage allotments for various destinations will again result in all but a relatively small percentage of Australian Apples and Pears being shipped to London, or on the contrary whether a logical and equitable measure of decentralisations will be adopted.

Although London is admittedly the world's greatest market for most varieties of primary produce, it cannot distribute economically to consumers in the Midlands, North of England and Scotland, who constitute two-thirds of the total population of Great Britain. Further, when supplies landed in London are greatly in excess of South of England requirements and saturation point has been reached in southern markets, it is only natural that merchants in the north and Midlands take advantage of the position to secure their requirements from London at bargain prices.

On the other hand, if freight allotments for various outports were based on the requirements of the areas to which the latter are adjacent, and which they can serve more economically than via any other route, demand in these areas would be stimulated, intermediate commissions or profits and multiple handling and transport charges would be saved, and even if higher prices were not realised an enormous sum in the aggregate would be available to add to producers' and shippers' net returns.

Of the various outport markets, Bristol and Cardiff are so situated that they are the economical ports for distribution to several million consumers within a radius of 30 or 40 miles; Southampton, in addition to being an excellent transit port, has

facilities for economic and rapid distribution to a large population; Glasgow is the economic port for the majority of Scotland's population of 5,000,000; Hull and Newcastle, on the east coast of England are convenient distributing points to various parts of the European Continent, and also have a fairly large population in their own economic areas.

But in this connection the claims of Liverpool and Manchester on the west coast are paramount. The former is the economic distributing point for possibly 3,000,000 or 4,000,000 consumers in West Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales, and Manchester is geographically the nearest centre from which 12,000,000 consumers in East Lancashire, West Yorkshire and the Midlands can be served at less cost than via any other port.

The construction of the Manchester Ship Canal and Docks made it possible for vessels of 10,000-12,000 tons to land imported produce 40 miles inland for the same rate of freight as to other British ports on the coast, and thus made Manchester the nearest deep-water port for a relatively small area—about 100 miles from north to south, and less than 60 miles from east to west—which contains over 200 cities and towns, including the majority of Britain's principal manufacturing centres.

The layout and equipment of Manchester Docks is up-to-date; all berths are alongside rail and refrigerated or other warehouse accommodation, ensuring efficient and economical handling of produce and rapid distribution to all parts of the country. A Commissioner who inspected all the principal ports of the U.K. and Continent on behalf of a United States Authority some years ago, reported:—

"In both construction and operation, Manchester stands out as the most efficient port in Europe."

The Manchester Whole Fruit Market is over six acres in extent, and an enormous volume of business is transacted in supplying the requirements of the city and towns in the surrounding area. Auction sales, attended by wholesale merchants from all the principal towns in East Lancashire, West Yorkshire and the Midlands, are held twice weekly in the Imported Fruit Salesrooms.

Despite the excellent facilities provided at Manchester, some 30,000 bushels only of Australian Apples have been shipped direct to the port in any recent year, although it is estimated over 2,500 tons are consumed each week in Manchester's economic area. Mr. T. J. McKinley, who has just returned from England after investigating conditions on behalf of

the Tasmanian State Fruit Board, reports:—

"Manchester has been neglected. The supplies have been spasmodic, and buyers of Tasmanian fruit have had to go elsewhere for their requirements. . . . Of all the ports I visited, Manchester probably has the best facilities for handling perishable products. . . . The system of handling and delivering fruit to the buyers was all that could have been desired. . . ."

It might be mentioned that the headquarters of the Co-operative Wholesale Society of England and Wales are in Manchester; the Society has over 7,000,000 consumer members, and its annual trade turnover is over £100,000,000 sterling. For many years the annual Manchester Bankers' Clearings at Manchester have been much greater than the corresponding clearings of Bristol, Hull, Liverpool and Newcastle combined.

New Zealand exporters have during recent years shipped larger quantities of dairy produce and fruit to Manchester than to any other British provincial port.

Steamers carrying refrigerated and general cargo load for Manchester at the principal mainland ports at approximately fortnightly intervals, and in order that more equitable distribution of fruit may be effected during the 1937 season, it is submitted that the loading ports of some of these steamers, and possibly others, should be extended to include Tasmanian ports, and so permit substantially increased shipments of fruit direct to Manchester. The accompanying comparative statement proves that prices realised at Manchester for all ordinary varieties during the 1937 season compare favorably with the corresponding returns from all other ports.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Wm. Jno. WADE.

Representative of the Port of Manchester, 21/12/36).

:: :: ::

The list of comparative prices referred to by Capt. Wade shows the ports of Manchester, London, Hull, Liverpool and Southampton, and prices received for different Apple varieties in the weeks ending April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30; June 6, 13, 20 and 27; also July 4, 1936. In the main the figures show higher prices at Manchester. The full list is obtainable on application.

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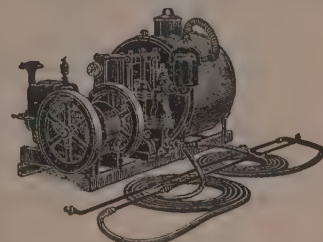
Portion of home and garden of Mr. S. Towers, Mooropna, Vic.



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

(Continued.)

## THE COMING REFERENDUM.

The Editor, "Fruit World."

Dear Sir,

With regard to the coming referendum, it is to be hoped that voters will go very thoroughly into the pros and cons of this matter before they irrevocably give up their freedom and put their businesses into the hands of people who in a number of cases will not have either the ability or knowledge to manage same; as they have hitherto been done by the man who has quite often made a life study of his particular branch of primary production.

Where are all these disorderly marketers? From my experience, I should say, the average fruitgrower has made a careful study re the sale of his fruit, and needs no third party or fussy Governmental Regulations, with attendant red tape delays, to say just when it will be the correct time to despatch a particular variety of fruit to a certain destination. Such Governmental control would have a disastrous effect on the progress of the country,

stifling as it does all individual initiative.

At present, to the writer's knowledge, active men in the fruitgrowing industry are exploring new markets for our fruit, and the results of such efforts have been highly satisfactory. Such would certainly not be the case with any semi-Governmental control.

I would like here to refer to the visit of certain Ministers to the East and the following collapse of our wonderful wool trade with Japan, followed by months of tedious negotiations between the two Governments. What private business would tolerate such foolish blunders?

To make any business profitable, we must show a margin of profit, and the best way to obtain this is to reduce the cost of production and increase the rate of consumption of the products. A solid reduction in our present protective policy would serve both these ends. How can any business show a decent profit when all productive costs are taxed up to the hilt, and monopoly prices are charged for all plant and machinery; due to the privilege enjoyed by the firms manufacturing these articles. Every purchaser who has to pay the higher

price on account of this monopoly creating tariff, naturally has a reduced purchasing power and hence less fruit is consumed. "Eat More Fruit." How can we when we haven't the wherewithal to pay for same.

In conclusion I would like to ask: "Are we as Australians going to develop into a supine race of mendicants or do we intend at this Referendum to insist on our individual freedom to co-operate with other individuals to the best of our ability and without let or hindrance from Governments, provided we do not infringe the equal rights of other individuals?"—Yours, etc.,

R. SERPELL

Williamson's-road, Doncaster, Vic., 11/12/36.

## LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER.

## The Freight Question and Trade With Germany.

An open letter to the Prime Minister, from Mr. H. McEwin, of Legana, N. Tasmania, was recently published in the Tasmanian press. Mr. McEwin states the major difficulties of the fruit industry are:—

1. Costly and inefficient sea transport.

2. Loss of the German market.

And that as both have been brought about by the action of the Federal Government, it was in their hands to effect the remedy. Last season Tasmania exported overseas 2,866,212 cases of Apples and Pears, and paid £592,127 in freights (reckoning as approximate 4/2 per case). As the average returns pooled out below 7/- per case, growers were working eight months for the shipping companies. Under the contract made by the Federal Government, growers had no say in the choice of steamers or sailing dates. The service last season was slow and inefficient, and ships arrived simultaneously, thus glutting the market.

With regard to trade with Germany, Mr. McEwin contends there were many lines which Germany could send to us: potash, kainit, nitrate or soda, etc. Germany wanted our Australian fruit and a trade agreement was an urgent necessity.

## THE DRYING OF PEARS.

The Williams or Bartlett Pear is the only Pear dried commercially. The fruit should be held in boxes and the ripe fruit sorted out for drying every few days. The fruit should be fully eating-ripe for drying. Very large Pears should be avoided, as they take too long to dry.

The fruit should be cut in two and placed cut side upwards on the wooden drying trays, then sulphured. The pear does not absorb the sulphur fumes readily, and to obtain a good colored article it is necessary to expose to the fumes for eighteen to twenty hours, sometimes necessitating recharging the sulphur chamber after about 12 hours, using sulphur at the rate of about 1lb. to 200 cubic feet of space for each charge. To test whether the Pear is sufficiently sulphured lift a fruit from a tray and feel the portion that was resting on the tray. If this portion is spongy it indicates that the fruit is sufficiently sulphured. If on the other hand hard portions are felt under the skin, the fruit should be replaced in the chamber and sulphured again.

When sulphuring is complete, the trays of fruit are stacked in such a manner that the air will pass freely through the trays, the top being covered with an empty tray to shade it from the sun; or the trays may be placed on a drying rack and protected from the sun by hessian curtains. Pears wholly dried in the shade dry a translucent color which is preferred by the trade. If it is desired to hasten drying, the fruit can be exposed to the sun by spreading the trays after the fruit is partially dried in the shade, but exposure to the sun in this way will result in a golden brown color.

Pears, being a very fleshy fruit, take four or five weeks to dry. When partially dry, drying can be completed in an evaporator.

## "NOISE GUN" FOR ORCHARDS.

## Said to Scare the Birds.

The Michigan (U.S.A.) Agricultural Experiment Station announces a new invention in the form of a noise gun for scaring off birds that infest orchards. It is equipped with a chamber carrying calcium carbide gas, which automatically discharges and then refills. Water, dripping on the carbide, forms a gas in the chamber, and one loading with carbide and water operates the gun automatically for a long time. It is said to cost very little to make and operate and effects much saving in orchards in which birds become very destructive.

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# DRIED FRUITS NEWS AND NOTES

## S.A. Dried Fruits Board

THE South Australian Dried Fruits Board met on December 15, when the Chairman (Mr. G. A. W. Pope) reported on the progress of the agreement between the Board, the A.D.F.A., and dealers. The closing date for obtaining signatures was December 8, when the Committee appointed at the Minister's Conference on October, 1936, and representative of the A.D.F.A., and non-associated dealers met and reviewed the position. Signatures of 22 dealers had been obtained to the agreement, and this number represented the whole of those which the Committee anticipated securing. It was agreed to report progress to the Minister, and to request him to make a press announcement supplying the names of the signatories to the agreement. This had since been done. The Committee also recommended that Messrs. C. E. Russell and R. A. Hayes comprise a delegation to proceed to Melbourne and Sydney to obtain the signatures of the Victorian and New South Wales parties to the agreement. This explained the absence of Mr. Russell from the Board meeting. The Committee also recommended that the expense of such delegation be borne by the Board.

The report was received and it was resolved that the Board agrees to bear the expenses of the delegation to the Eastern States.

Secretary submitted copy of minutes of meeting of the Consultative Com-

mittee held in Melbourne on 4/12/36 with the following recommendations:—

(1) Crop estimate for 1937 to be taken and compiled by January 28, 1937.

(2) Arrangements for simultaneous publication of quota determinations.

(3) The next general Interstate Conference and representation thereat. The recommendations were adopted.

A letter was received from the Minister of Agriculture advising that the Department contemplated the appointment of a Research Officer and the Board confirmed its previous resolution to subsidise the salary of such officer up to £200 per annum. Secretary was directed to advise the Minister accordingly, and that the subsidy would continue for a term of three years from the date of appointment, provided the officer so appointed would devote at least one-half of his time to the investigation of dried fruit cultural problems, particularly the matter of the small prune.

A request from the A.D.F.A. Federal Council for the Board to make a regulation in regard to retail sales was received and Secretary was directed to prepare a report thereon.

Considerable time was devoted to applications for renewal of dealers' and packing house registrations in respect to the year ending December 31, 1937, and also to applications for new registrations. The remainder of the session was occupied by the usual financial and routine business.

### HOW TO DRY FIGS.

A week or so before starting to dry figs, prepare a strong lye from the ashes of figwood. When these are not available the ashes from boxwood may be used. All cuttings from Fig trees should be kept for this purpose. Half a bucketful of ashes to 10 gallons of water will make a good lye. Stir well occasionally. When required, pour off the clear liquid into an open vessel, such as a copper. Heat, and keep at simmering point. Figs should be well developed, but barely ripe. Place them in boiling lye for a minute.

A simple plan is to have a sieve that will fit into the boiler. Place a layer of Figs on this, and dip into the boiling lye for a minute. Take out, and spread the fruit on a table in the sun. Turn twice a day for three days, and take in at night to protect from dew. If the sun is extremely hot, protect the fruit with an awning of thinnest calico to prevent it from drying unevenly or scorching, which would cause toughness.

Have boxes ready (small ones are best), and pack the fruit in evenly until there is one row above the top. Place on lid, and either nail it down or place a heavy weight on it. Set boxes in a dry place. In a few days a treacly substance will begin to exude, and this, when dry produces the sugary appearance peculiar to dried figs.

### VICTORIAN QUOTAS.

The Minister for Agriculture has approved of the following proportions of the Victorian dried fruits crops being marketed within the State:—

Currants, 30 per cent.; Sultanas, 17 per cent.; Lexias, 40 per cent.; Prunes, 47 per cent.; dried Peaches, 67½ per cent.; Apricots, 70 per cent.; Nectarines, 60 per cent.; and dried Pears 65 per cent.

### BELOW-STANDARD PRUNES.

Under an arrangement approved by the Secretary of the California Department of Agriculture, the Pacific Prune Producers' Association has decided to purchase 5,000 tons of sub-standard, natural condition Prunes from growers and packers to sell for conversion into Prune juice, Prune brandy and other approved by-products. It is estimated that the 1936-37 Prune crop in California and Pacific North-West will reach 156,000 tons.

## Australian Dried Fruits

THE Commonwealth Dried Fruits Export Control Board, in its final bulletin for the year, advises that since the last report 317 tons of Australian dried fruits have been sold in Great Britain. The average price of 41 tons of Lexias was £40/2/3, of 60 tons of Currants £27/5/8, while 216 tons of Sultanas averaged £45/3/2 per ton. The unsold portion of the 1936 harvest is reduced to 1,382 tons, 24,456 having been placed in Great Britain. The export of dried fruits to all countries is 46,661 tons, of which 25,818 tons were shipped to Great Britain and 20,843 tons to other overseas markets.

The Board has noted references to a suggested absence of supplies of Australian dried fruits from the British market, but would point out that such comment is based on an erroneous conception of the position. The anticipated early disposal of the Australian export surplus does not in-

australian harvest can be correctly described as new seasons, in which condition the wholesaler or semi-wholesaler and retailer would naturally desire to acquire supplies. From September onwards and particularly in the British market, Australian fruit enters into special competition with new season's Mediterraneans and American fruit, and consequently the objective of the agents acting as the consignees of the Australian produce is to dispose of the Australian harvest at a time when it is in its best condition, and when the market is best adapted for its sale. The reticulation of the fruit to the consumer through the wholesale and retail trade is an entirely different matter, and it may be confidently stated that at no time in an ordinary year is the retailer without supplies of Australian fruit, or are such unavailable to the consumer in Great Britain. The practice of selling supplies when they are in best condition and when the market is most active is so universal in all trades that it is only a misunderstanding of the position which would permit of the suggestion that there is any break in the continuity of supplies to the consumer in Great Britain.

### VICTORIAN BOARD.

#### Personnel Announced.

The election of the personnel of the Victorian Dried Fruits Board was held during December, and resulted in the following representatives being returned:—

No. 1 District (Mildura).—Messrs. Alfred Rawlings (Merbein), Stephen R. Mansell (Mildura), and Henry V. Davey (Red Cliffs).

No. 2 District (Elsewhere in Victoria).—Mr. David A. Cockroft (Woorinen), unopposed.

The above personnel will hold office for the next three years.

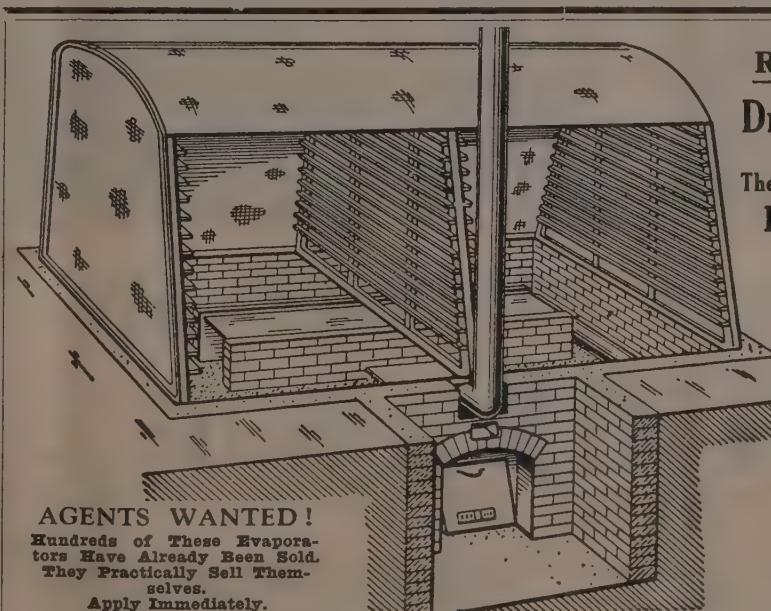
### GREECE SEEKS NEW MARKETS.

#### Poor Quality Currants Exported.

AIDED BY GOVERNMENT support, the Central Currant Organisation in Greece is making an effort to increase exports, and a bonus is being considered for all Currants exported to 23 new countries, including a number of British countries. 5/6 per cwt. will be the bonus offered to stimulate this new trade.

The new Yugoslavia-Greece treaty provides for the exportation of 6,000 tons poor quality Greek Currants to Yugoslavia for the distillation of alcohol, and 30,000 tons of last season's poor quality fruit to Germany for industrial purposes at a minimum rate of £3/7/6 per ton, delivered in Germany.

volve an absence of supplies of fruit available for consumption in retail stores. The position is that from the middle of March in each season exports commence of Sultanas, Currants and Lexias to the several Empire markets. The objective of the Australian producer is to sell his produce during that period of the year when the Aus-



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Obtainable in 4 lb., 28 lb., and 1 cwt. bags at all produce stores, or direct from W. D. & H. O. Wills (Aust.) Ltd.

## Queensland Fruit Crops

**A**N INTERESTING SUMMARY of Queensland fruit crop prospects is to hand from the Committee of Direction of Fruit Marketing as follows dated December 11:—

**Bananas.**—Owing to the dry weather conditions which have been experienced for the past six months supplies will be decidedly short during the coming Summer. It is anticipated that heavy plantings will be made during the year.

**Pineapples.**—The past Winter crop the harvesting of which was completed at the end of October, proved to be a record, totalling approximately 450,000 cases. The continuance of the present dry spell will undoubtedly reduce the size of the fruit for the coming Summer crop, but the increased planting that will be coming into bearing will more than offset this, and it is estimated that production figures will continue to increase.

**Papaws.**—The crop is now rapidly diminishing, the exceptional dry weather conditions being responsible for the fruit now being marketed being far below the usual size. The quality and flavor of the fruit have been excellent throughout, and assisted by a factory outlet for all supplies surplus to market requirements growers have been able to maintain a high quality standard on all markets. There will undoubtedly be an increase in the plantings of Papaws early in the New Year. For the past two years factories have not been able to secure their requirements in full, and therefore growers are assured that an increased acreage is warranted.

**Strawberries.**—The deliveries last season during July, August and the beginning of September gave every indication that a record crop would be harvested. Due to the drought, however, supplies fell very rapidly during September, the total crop being very little in excess of last year.

**Tomatoes.**—Brisbane and Redland District: The Spring crop is now practically finished, and has suffered considerably owing to the absence of any useful rain during the whole of the growing period. It is anticipated that fairly heavy plantings will be made early in the New Year.

**Passionfruit.**—The crop this year is well below the average, and falls far short of supplying the increasing demand. The dry conditions which have been experienced are evidenced in the large proportion of small fruit included in the crop.

**Citrus.**—The recent rains came too late to be of any material benefit to citrus growers, and the crop throughout the State for the coming season will undoubtedly be light.

**Stanthorpe District.**

**Peaches and Plums.**—The late frost destroyed a good portion of the crop and the exceptional dry weather has reduced the size of Plums and Peaches in general. Due to the light crop, good prices are at present being realised.

**Apples.**—The crop of certain varieties such as Delicious, Dunns and Gravenstein will be definitely lighter this season, but there should be a good medium crop of Jonathans and Granny Smiths.

**Grapes.**—The Grape crop is very good, such varieties as Waltham Cross having set exceptionally well during the dry period.

**Tomatoes.**—The early crop will be very light, due to the dry season and the late crop will depend on weather conditions being more favorable.

A small boy was seen by a policeman to be throwing stones at an old man who was digging in his garden and gave as his tearful excuse "Please I didn't know you was diggin' I thort you wus put there to scare the birds away!"



# THE MARKET GROWER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE MARKET GARDENERS AND FRUITGROWERS' SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.  
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## Halo Blight of Beans

### Resistance of Varieties

By A. T. Pugsley, B.Ag.Sc. (Vic.).

IN dealing with the above subject recently in the Victorian "Agricultural Journal," Mr. Pugsley, Assistant Plant Pathologist, records work done in the laboratory, experiments conducted in Victoria, and the value of resistance tests which have been carried out. He concludes with a table showing the resistance recorded for the several varieties discussed. In an accompanying footnote he points out that there are three distinct diseases of the French Bean—Halo Blight, Bacterial Blight, and Bacterial Wilt. The latter two, although reported in Australia, have only been found in isolated cases, but Halo Blight is unfortunately quite common.

For assistance with the field experiments, he acknowledges the co-operation of Mr. G. H. D. Russell, of Orbost, Victoria, on whose farm much of the study was carried out.

The Halo Blight disease of French Beans has been the subject of intensive laboratory and field studies in Victoria as well as in many overseas countries. Reports of earlier work in Victoria on the control of this disease are on record, and the following is an account of further investigations, including the more recent experiments on varietal resistance carried out during the seasons 1934 to 1936.

Reid, reporting a failure to evolve a suitable treatment for seed disinfection, has shown that under New Zealand conditions roguing of diseased plants has proved successful in eliminating the disease. He states also that with adequate isolation, disease-free seed has been produced under normal farming conditions.

The failure which Victorian growers have experienced with this method of disease control is due mainly to the fact that the local weather conditions, usually are so favorable for the rapid spread of the disease. If results are expected from this method with susceptible varieties, then severe and continuous roguing would be necessary. Success would be assured only when the method is practised under fairly dry conditions and when the original seedling infection in the crop is low.

Similar reasons have been given by Adam in explaining the failure of the seed treatment method as a control measure under Victorian conditions. He states:—"Although treatment of infected Bean seed, in the manner in-

\*\*\*\*\*  
Fig. 1—Two rows of resistant Burnley Selection, with susceptible Canadian Wonder plants on either side.  
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\*\*\*\*\*  
indicated, effects a marked reduction in the number of diseased plants that can be ascribed to the use of infected seed, weather factors in the Victorian Bean-growing areas during the growth of the crop may operate in a way so favorable to the disease that the initial advantages in the shape of a reduction of infected plants as a result of seed disinfection may be lost." In continuing this aspect of the work further efforts were made in an attempt to eliminate seed infection by the use of more dilute solutions of Germisan for longer periods, but without success.

#### Bacterial Action.

Laboratory work has shown that the bacteria are in intimate contact with the seed. They have been found in the third layer of the seed coat and also completely surrounding the cotyledons; and although Zaumeyer states that the bacteria do not enter the cotyledons until germination, evidence has been obtained to demonstrate the invasion of the cotyledonary tissue prior to germination. If the seed coats of badly diseased Magnum Bonum seeds are removed, it often is possible to detect small circular, cream-colored spots on the cotyledons. Stained sections of these lesions reveal the presence of large masses of bacteria in the intercellular spaces and penetrating to a depth of 4 to 5 cells. These facts, together with the small margin of safety that exists between the death points of the bacteria and the seeds, would account for the failure of the chemical seed treatments.

Following the successes of workers in America and Europe with resistant varieties, the later work in Victoria has been concentrated on this aspect. Successful attempts have been made to develop varieties which, while having the desirable horticultural qualities so well met by the Canadian Wonder variety, possess that additional and all-important factor of disease resistance.

#### "Burnley Selection" of Canadian Wonder.

Adam refers to a "natural" selection of a resistant strain within the Canadian Wonder variety, especially in places where the disease has been severe in the last few years. This phenomenon also was noted by the author in plots at the Melbourne University during February, 1933, and also in subsequent seasons in the field at Orbost. The outstanding resistance of certain plots in contrast with the commercial Canadian Wonder plots, which were destroyed by the disease, is illustrated herewith.

The experiments conducted at Orbost during the 1934-35 season have established the identity of the strain from the Melbourne University with the strains isolated at Orbost and with the Selection B referred to in Adam's work. The plants of this strain differ from the Canadian Wonder variety in the following characters. They are more bushy and compact in growth, of a lighter green color, and come into bearing later. The pods are shorter and of a darker green color, and usually show well-defined constrictions between the seeds. The seeds, although of the same color, do not have the kidney-shaped appearance of Canadian Wonder seed. In addition, the strain appears to be rather more susceptible to common Bean mosaic. In the present paper it is proposed to refer to this strain as "Burnley Selection."

The 1934-35 Orbost tests gave a rather striking demonstration of the resistance of the Burnley Selection strain to halo blight. The three samples of seed used in this test were:—

1. Commercial unselected Canadian Wonder.
2. Burnley Selection from the Wahgunyah Nursery.
3. Burnley Selection from the Burnley Gardens.

Plots of each sample were sown on November 13, 1934, between single rows of Canadian Wonder seed which previously had been soaked for sixteen hours in a bacterial infusion, prepared by adding broken diseased seeds to water. These "infection" rows soon became 100 per cent. diseased, and so provided a heavy and uniform source of infection. The plots consisted of two rows, which were 3 chains long and replicated four times. On February 7, 1935, the plots were inspected. The intervening period was one of cool temperatures, accompanied by severe wind, hail, and rainstorms, so that conditions were most favorable for the spread and development of halo blight. Inspection at

this time demonstrated rather strikingly the resistance of both Burnley Selection plots. These two plots were almost free from disease, except for a few isolated plants, which showed dried out leaf-spot lesions. There was no evidence of the more severe systemic infection. On the other hand, the commercial Canadian Wonder plots were almost totally destroyed; the few remaining plants appeared to be of the resistant type (see illustration).

The yields obtained from these plots were as follows:—

Strain of Canadian Wonder.	Burnley Selection (Wahgunyah).	Burnley Selection (Burnley).	Commercial.
Yield of seed per plot.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Plot 1 . . . . .	25	27	7
Plot 2 . . . . .	22	31	6
Plot 3 . . . . .	27	33	6
Plot 4 . . . . .	30	27	6
Total . . . . .	104	118	25
Aver. yield per plot	26	29.5	6.25

This experiment was repeated under different climatic conditions at Wahgunyah during the 1935-36 season and gave essentially similar results.

#### Varietal Resistance Tests.

Varietal resistance tests were established during 1935-36 at Orbost and Burnley in an attempt to compare and evaluate the resistance of the new Burnley Selection of Canadian Wonder with other well-known varieties. In these trials were included four English varieties reported by Ogilvie and Mulligan to possess some resistance to Halo Blight.

The following varieties were tested:—

#### Commercial Canadian Wonder.

Pale Dun, Feltham's Prolific—Local varieties fairly resistant. New Discovery, Staley's Brown Beauty, Staley's Star, Staley's Surprise—Good local varieties of unknown resistance.

#### Burnley Selection of Canadian Wonder.

Black Prince, Black Wonder, Ne Plus Ultra, Superlative—English varieties reported to be resistant.

Note.—Some confusion exists regarding the names of Beans and it is now generally recognised that:—

New Discovery is synonymous with Sutton's Satisfaction, Abundant, and Le Sultan.

Staley's Brown Beauty with Suttons Premier and Acme.

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112 lb. Bags 9d. lb.; 56 lb. Cases 10d. lb.; 7 lb. Bags 11d. lb.; 2 lb. Cartons 2/3 ea.; 1 lb. Cartons 1/3 ea. Wholesale Prices on Application.

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MELBOURNE

Staley’s Star with Sutton’s Peerless and Canadian Express.

Staley’s Surprise with Sutton’s Prince.

At Orbest these twelve varieties were sown in plots of two rows 3 chains long, and replicated four times in a randomised manner. Single rows of Canadian Wonder seed (previously soaked in a bacterial infusion prepared by adding broken diseased seeds to water) were sown between these plots. Approximately three weeks after germination the plants in the “soaked” rows were 100 per cent. diseased, and thus provided a heavy and uniform source of infection. Unfortunately flooding followed heavy rains during December and the plots were destroyed. Observations made prior to this indicated that Burnley Selection and Pale Dun were the most resistant, and that Brown Beauty and Canadian Wonder were the most susceptible.

The plots established at the Burnley Gardens, however, yielded more detailed results. The resistance of Burnley Selection, Pale Dun, and Feltham’s Prolific was confirmed, and, in addition, Star, New Discovery, and the English varieties were shown to possess a valuable resistance. In these experiments muslin bags containing the seeds were soaked for sixteen hours in a bacterial infusion and then planted immediately. This treatment also resulted in a very high seedling infection.

Method of Measuring Resistance.

Experience has shown that in determining resistance, the best standard



Fig. 2—Natural selection of the resistant Burnley Selection from the commercial sample of Canadian Wonder.

(Blocks courtesy Vic. “Journal of Agriculture.”)

for measuring resistance or susceptibility is not necessarily the count of diseased plants, or of pods alone, but rather a combined effect expressed in the form of the severity of the general symptoms. This usually can be indicated by noting the extent of systemic infection. Counts of healthy and diseased pods were made, but these figures did not always represent the true resistance of a variety. For instance, a variety such as Star, designated as moderately resistant in the table attached, showed a relatively high pod infection in one experiment, although the plants possessed a good “general resistance.”

lar to Burnley Selection in the Canadian Wonder plot (see illustration).

Conclusion.

Following upon the investigations of varietal resistance of Beans to Halo Blight the general conclusion has been made that, with the usual care necessary in selecting the seed to be planted, the use of any of the above-mentioned resistant varieties will give satisfactory control of the disease. It remains then for the individual grower to select that variety most suitable to the particular demand of the market.

TABLE OF RESISTANCE TO HALO BLIGHT.

Class.	Order of Resistance.	Pot Infection.			
		January 8, 1936.		Feb. 26, 1936.	
		Dis-eased Pods.	Severity of Spotting.	Dis-eased Pods.	Severity of Spotting.
Very resistant ..	Burnley Selection (1)	0	—	0	—
	Pale Dun (2) .. .	19	Slight	2	Slight
	Star (3) .. . . .	84	Heavy	15	Slight
	New Discovery (3)	—	—	2	Slight
	Black Prince (3) ..	59	Medium	2	Slight
Moderately Re-sistant .. . . .	Black Wonder (3) ..	46	Medium	2	Slight
	Feltham Prolific (3)	27	Medium	2	Slight
	Superlative (3) .. .	35	Medium	2	Slight
	Ne Plus Ultra (4) ..	47	Medium	6	Slight
	Surprise (5) .. . .	75	Heavy	37	Heavy
Very susceptible	Brown Beauty (6) ..	—	—	28	Heavy
	Canadian Wonder (7)	85	Heavy	38	Heavy

As a result of the 1935-36 tests it has been possible to prepare a table and arrange the varieties in order of resistance and in three classes, viz.:— (i) Very resistant. Leaf spots not numerous and causing only very slight damage, no systemic infection. (ii) Moderately resistant. Leaf spots more common, causing death of some leaves; small amount of systemic infection. (iii) Very susceptible. Many plants dead and systemic infection common. Pod infection counts of two experiments are tabulated also in the table.

Although three varieties—Tweed Wonder, Magnum Bonum (Flagelot Victoria), and Afrikander (Masterpiece)—were not included in these tests, observations made at other times would place all three in the “very susceptible” class.

It is interesting to note that, while Canadian Wonder proved to be the most susceptible, the Burnley Selection was the most resistant. Although there is no field evidence of either systemic infection or pod spotting of Burnley Selection, both types of symptoms were produced following needle inoculation of plants grown under greenhouse conditions.

The plot of Brown Beauty was completely destroyed by Halo Blight, except for three plants which stood out to be very resistant, in a manner simi-

ONION GROWERS.

Information Required by Board.

The Onion Marketing Board announces that, in order to assist it in its effective operations, growers shall lodge a return, showing the areas planted in each year of 1935 and 1936, with Brown Spanish, Globe and White Varieties.

All Onion growers are requested also furnish the Board with the names and addresses for recording such information of the industry, and to record the sources of supply throughout the State.

Tomato Picking by Contract

IMPROVED METHODS EXPLAINED :: QUALITY THE FIRST CONSIDERATION.

IN a paper read at the Tomato and Tomato Products Section of the last National Cannery Association Convention, held in Chicago, Mr. Geo. Roush, of Frankfort, Ind., explained how they improved their Tomato picking on a quality graded basis. The report appeared in the “Canadian Canner.”

Up to September, 1934, the growers picked their own Tomatoes, but they were beginning to experience difficulty with the corn earworm. Some 38 growers who owed \$800 for plants and fertiliser became so discouraged because of poor grade as the result of corn earworm damage, that they refused to invest any more money in picking. They felt they could not pay out for fertiliser and plants, and turned the fields over to the factory. We organised picking crews and went to work. When frost came we had reduced the \$800 liability to \$100. Twenty growers out of the thirty-eight had paid expenses, and fifteen of these growers were silver medal winners, which requires an average of 65 per cent. of No. 1 fruit.

How Picking Crews are Managed.

We first find a boss picker, and he selects six other men of his own choosing. The boss is responsible for his crew as to quality harvested, number of baskets harvested each week by each picker, and paying pickers. The boss is paid 4½ cents for all hampers he harvests, as well as ½ cent. on all hampers harvested by the rest of the crew. Others in the crew are paid 4 cents per hamper. The boss selects good pickers, so he does not need to spend his time in supervision, but may increase his wages by himself harvesting Tomatoes. The farmer

pays the cost of harvesting, which is 10/- per ton, plus 7½d. per ton for the supervision. On Saturday night the boss picker turns in at the factory the number of hampers harvested for each grower. On Tuesday, the boss receives a cheque made out to the grower and charged to his account for the number of hampers hauled in. The boss has the grower endorse this cheque if the number of hampers is correct, and then pays the pickers for their previous week’s work. Any shortage or excess in hampers between the number harvested and the number hauled in by the farmer is adjusted among the pickers on a pro rata basis.

When the boss picker starts out with a crew, each member must bring him three Tomatoes before he can start harvesting. One must be a real No. 1 grade, the second must be a No. 2 that will never be a No. 1, and the third a cull which will never be any better. No. 2’s and culls, due to greenness, will not be accepted to qualify pickers. The boss picker pays no more attention to the pickers until the grade slips come back from the first load. If the grade is unsatisfactory, the boss dumps the baskets of the individual pickers, which are numbered with chalk, and inspects them. Poor pickers then receive additional instruction and must improve if they are to continue harvesting. In practice, the different pickers will watch new men or poor pickers to keep up the quality of their loads.

We have found the above method of picking by contract with teams of pickers and from a factory point of view, we get better fruit and graded in the way we want it, the pickers also get a better return for their labor.

A New Sweet Corn

Popularity Prophesied.

“Asgrow Golden Colonel” is the name of a new variety of Sweet Corn developed by Associated Seed Growers, Inc., and now introduced to the trade by them. It won an All-America award of merit in the American Seed Trade Association, says the “Packer and Canner” (U.S.A.).

This new variety is identical with Country Gentleman in every respect except for its bright yellow color, which is similar to one of its parents, Golden Bantam. In maturity it stands alone as the only yellow Sweet Corn variety in season with such main crop

sorts as Early Evergreen and Country Gentleman. In general plant vigor and productiveness it is equal to these important varieties. In practical canning tests Asgrow Golden Colonel has proven to be of fancy quality. Its dainty golden shoe-peg kernels of good depth are especially pleasing in a whole kernel pack and cannot be duplicated by any other Sweet Corn variety. The slightly tapering, cylindrical ears are well designed for whole grain cutters. Cream style Corn packed from this variety has good consistency and smoothness.”



# Motor Cars, Trucks, Tractors

## Tyre Trouble

Care Will Prevent.

HERE are several things that can cause tyre trouble out on the road, and most of them can be prevented by a little care on the part of the driver. A U.S.A. trade journal issues the following advice:—

### Correct Inflation.

Many factors contribute to excessive tread wear among which are under-inflation, over-inflation, high temperatures, excessive speeds, harsh use of the accelerator, and misalignment of wheels and incorrect adjustment of the brakes. Tyres should always be maintained at the advised pressure, for under-inflation is one of the most common causes of undue wear, by causing abnormal flexing of the side-walls and excessive contact of the tread with the road surface. The result is rapid and uneven wear on the edges of the tread and greater susceptibility to rim bruises, along with over-straining of the cords which form the foundation of the tyre. Because of the excessive road contact, the shoulders of the tyre are subjected to a wiping action as they revolve upon the road, causing a "scuffing" noise at each revolution, which is sometimes mistaken for a rear-end noise.

Over-inflation is correspondingly harmful, since the area of tread in contact with the road is decreased. It leaves only a narrow strip of the tread as to withstand the friction and give active adhesion. In a more severe case of running continuously with the tyre under-inflated, the inner piles become broken in the flexing area in a generally straight line circumferentially, either part or all the way round the casing. This condition is usually confined to one side, although it will invariably be more pronounced on one side. This break will usually be accompanied by a separated or frayed condition of the cords in the inner one or two piles on either side accompanied by a discolored condition.

### Side Walls Crushed and Folded.

When a tyre is run flat or extremely soft, the side-walls are folded and crushed between the rim and the road, setting up a severe grating action between the folded inner portions of the side-walls and causing the cords in the inside ply to become separated. The amount of separation, or the distance in which it occurs, depends largely upon the type of road, the weight of the car, the speed at which the car was driven, and the severity with which the brakes were applied in stopping the car. It may be found in either or both sides, and the damage is beyond repair.

A rupture in a tyre is a break in the cords due to a heavy or sharp impact crushing the side-wall against the steel rim. It is caused by driving with the tyres under-inflated or at a high rate of speed over some sharp object such as a break in the pavement, large rocks, railroad crossings, or into a kerb. With careful driving, ruptures need never be experienced. When a tyre is ruptured, unless the impact is extremely severe, only a few cords will be broken, and no mark will be left on the outside of the casing as it stretches with the injury. The same condition also exists in the case so that it also remains uninjured at the time of the rupture. However, after a few cords are broken the neighbouring cords give way because of the excess strain.

## Triumph of the Small Tractor

Tractor power, which has made history in wheat-growing, extending and improving grain production everywhere, is to-day exercising a far-reaching influence in grazing country, dairying districts, in fruit growing and in the various forms of mixed farming.

There are very sound reasons for the rising demand for tractors in these different fields. Available now at very low cost are small, compact, versatile tractors known as the McCormick-Deering "12" series, which operate with remarkable power on low-cost kerosene fuel. Turning in a very short radius, they manoeuvre with ease in confined spaces like the rows between fruit trees, and they have ample power to energise ploughs, harrows, cultivators, mowers and other field jobs on various properties that require speedy, economical working. Following the modern trend, the International Harvester Company, who, since tractor farming began, have built up a wide range of 13 different and highly practical tractors, supply these small tractor units with the conventional steel wheels equipped with lugs, or with low-pressure pneumatic tyres.

Built for drawbar, belt-pulley and power take-off jobs, these small tractors, masterpieces of compact power in small compass, are coming to be regarded as indispensable on mixed farms, where economy is imperative; also in orchards where they handle tillage implements and haul necessary loads as well; on station properties, where general utility power is a wonderful convenience throughout the year. They are indeed veritable mechanical handymen that bring the inestimable aid of power-farming economy to every man on the land.

## Solid Petrol from Coal

Tests Made in England.

A fully-laden five-ton lorry travelled recently from Leicestershire to London on what is called "solid" petrol, made in Leicestershire from local coal. Average speed was 22 to 25 miles an hour.

Referring to the matter, a London trade report states that consumption of the lorry under ordinary road conditions is 0.2 lb. per mile per ton rolling load. The cruising range of one charge is 180 to 100 miles, while the saving in fuel cost is stated to be about 60 per cent. It is necessary to adjust the ordinary car engine to take "solid" petrol, but a number of firms have already commenced this work, and also the production of new vehicles which operate on this method.

"Solid" petrol has the appearance of small cinders, the average piece being about as big as a thimble. Coal of low value is used to make this fuel. Recently 1,200 sacks of Irish peat were carbonised at the plant, and from these solid petrol was obtained. The by-products from the manufacture of this fuel are all said to be marketable.

### A STRONG MOTIVE.

"You say you came to the city to look for work. I put it to you, there was another, a stronger motive that brought you all that distance."

"Well," hesitated the defendant, "there was."

"Ah!" cried the barrister, triumphantly. "And what was it?"

"A locomotive."

## THAT'S ONE WAY

Yugoslavia has a novel way of penalising careless motor drivers. Any driver seen acting carelessly is stopped by the transport officers and his tyres are deflated sufficiently to make him travel slowly or to hand pump his tyres. The principle involved is that the exertion will impress upon him the necessity of driving carefully and recognising the rights of other drivers on the road.

It is rather harsh treatment, of course, and would cause much indignation in Australia, and its chief objection would be that it would create bad feeling between the traffic police and the motorist, whilst, at the same time, giving power to the police to act on their own judgment.

## POWER ALCOHOL

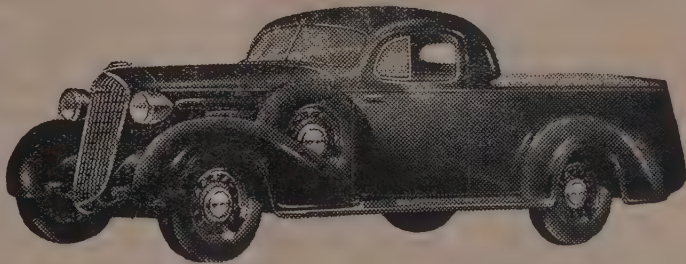
### From Farm Products

A co-operative still has been built in the Yamhill County, Oregon, U.S.A., which will shortly produce 500 gallons of power alcohol per day from farm products, according to a report in the "Pacific Rural Press." The plant will cost £2,000 and follows experiments that have been going on for some time, supervised by Dr. Charles Christensen, of Ames, Iowa, who produced alky-gasoline successfully for the chemical foundation. This is the first power alcohol plant to be equipped on the Pacific Coast.

Driver of Baby Car: "Can you let me have a little petrol?"

Lorry Driver: "Certainly. But I think a new flint is what you want."

## Save Money with Chevrolet The Cheapest Full-Sized Utility



Illustrated is the Chevrolet "6" Open Delivery with Coupe Front.

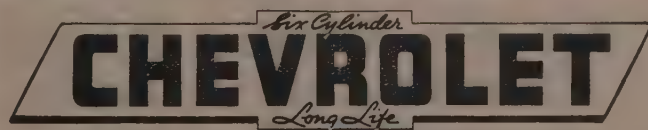
When you own a Chevrolet Utility it saves you money—on the day you buy and every mile you drive. The fact that Chevrolet is the lowest-priced full-sized utility is your first saving. Then, you'll find that Chevrolet is the lowest consumer of oil and petrol you've ever had. Next, you'll realize that Chevrolet is the most powerful in its price-class. And, finally, when you own a Chevrolet, its utter dependability, long life and low maintenance cost will satisfy you of your wisdom in buying it, as it has satisfied more than two million owners throughout the world. Before you buy your next utility come in and try the latest 1936 Chevrolet.

## Chevrolet Trucks Win Praise of Their Owners

### Read What This Owner Says:—

"In 1930, I bought a 6-cylinder Chevrolet truck, and I think it only fair to tell you of the wonderful run I've had with it. After 85,000 miles of gruelling work, it still gives 15 to 16 miles to the gallon with a 30 cwt. to 2 ton load over a 'give and take road.' A gallon of oil does for from 900 to 1,000 miles, and repairs to date have cost less than £5."—A.W.U., Corowa.

The Chevrolet engine is a real worker, built for long life and hard toil. Its full-length cylinder-cooling, thermostatic heat control, crankcase ventilation, spray-cooled exhaust valves and pressure steam lubrication are among the features which make it the longest-lived of truck engines. The Chevrolet engine is built to last the life of the truck. Chevrolet Trucks range from the popular 30-cwt. model to the 5-ton Mapleleaf semi-trailer.



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# New Zealand News and Notes

PARTIAL LIFTING OF CITRUS EMBARGO — APPLE QUOTAS FOR U.K. — FRUIT PRICES — REPORT OF MARKETING COMMISSION AWAITED.

(By Our Correspondent.)

**T**WO EVENTS OF IMPORTANCE to fruit growers of Australia and New Zealand have occurred during the past few weeks: the temporary lifting of the citrus embargo on New South Wales and Victorian fruit entering New Zealand, and the meeting between the Australian Apple and Pear Council and the New Zealand Fruit Board to discuss quotas for 1937.

The decision to temporarily lift the citrus embargo was evidently caused by the shortage of Oranges in the N.Z. market. It seemed to have no appearance of a goodwill gesture, and as there is no sign in Government quarters of a further quota being allowed, the New Zealand public will apparently continue to pay comparatively high prices for Oranges.

According to all reports, the fruit was purchased from Australia at a price of 14/6 f.o.b., Sydney, for the 1½ bushel case. This, we estimate, would give a landed price in New Zealand of approximately 17/6. The Government has fixed the wholesale price at 22/6. There would have been no need to fix either a wholesale or retail price if the embargo had been lifted altogether, as the law of supply and demand would have kept prices within bounds. N.S.W. has come in for a fair share of criticism.

In Government circles it is considered that fruit should have been made available by the N.S.W. grower at a

lower figure. While this may be so, it should be remembered that N.Z. has come into the market at a fairly late date, and furthermore shipments have been restricted to the irrigation areas, and as it is from these quarters that Australia supplies her Eastern trade, and as Californian fruit is in short supply in the East owing to the Pacific Coast strike, it should be readily appreciated that the market has advanced accordingly.

The New Zealand trade demands high quality fruit, and as this type of fruit is in demand from other markets, particularly with California temporarily out of the running, the Australian trade is finding it difficult to secure the necessary supplies. In addition, it was expected here that immediately New Zealand wanted 12,000 boxes, the quantity would be forthcoming within a few days. It does not seem to be appreciated at this end that the fruit was still on the trees and would remain there until definite orders were placed and the supplying merchants had made the necessary arrangements with the growers. Despite eight months drought in N.S.W., confirmation of the business coincided with a couple of wet days in the Griffith and Leeton areas, with the result that it was some few days before picking and packing could actually get under way.

[See comments in this connection by the Market Representative of the

Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. on another page in this issue. — Ed. "F.W. & M.G."]

The N.S.W. Government inspection service set a high standard for the N.Z. business, and stipulated that all fruit would have to be fumigated before shipment, with the result that packing took a little while longer, and N.S.W. failed to supply within the short time stipulated by the N.Z. merchants. It is expected in Sydney, that the market for citrus fruit will advance further, and comparatively high prices are expected in both Sydney and Melbourne for Valentias in January and February.

The outturn of the fruit in New Zealand has been very satisfactory, the quality is good and there has been no trace of disease. Oranges will not be very cheap in the shops, and it seems to be overlooked by the New Zealand growers that high prices of Oranges automatically reduce the purchasing power for other fruits. The importance of Oranges in the diet of children particularly, has been stressed for many years by health authorities with the result that so far as families are concerned the purchase of Oranges is the first essential in the fruit bill. What is left of the weekly allocation will be spent in other directions.

In connection with the U.K. Apple markets in 1936, it was held that the high price of vegetables restricted the buying power for fruit, and that this was one of the outstanding reasons for the low prices secured on Apples. This reason has been accepted by the New Zealand Apple grower as applying to the United Kingdom. It is just as sound an argument when applied nearer home, and it would probably pay the New Zealand fruit-grower to encourage the heavy importation of Oranges so that the retail prices would drop and thus leave additional purchasing power for the locally-grown fruits.

## 1937 Quotas:

The Australian delegation consisting of Mr. B. Mills and Mr. R. Humphreys arrived in Wellington by the "Awatea" on December 7. After reaching Sydney, Mr. Taylor, the Tasmanian growers' delegate was unable to make the trip owing to indisposition. The decisions of the conference between Australia and New Zealand have not yet been released, but it is understood that the Australian proposals envisage the export of 3½ million boxes from Australian States to the United Kingdom, including February shipments, which would mean a drop of approximately half a million boxes as compared with 1936. It is quite obvious that as far as New Zealand is concerned no quota is really necessary, as owing to the frosts in Hawke's Bay the total available for shipment to all markets will be under one million boxes, with the United Kingdom figures somewhere round about 800,000. Of New Zealand's total, the South Island will supply 90 per cent. to 95 per cent. of the export, and in addition the South Island will have to make good the shortage which will exist in the North Island as a result of the Hawke's Bay frost.

Auckland growers are wrestling with their Delicious problem, and a deputation was in Wellington recently to discuss the situation with the Government.

The crop in the main districts can be classified as patchy. Weather conditions throughout the Spring and early Summer have not been favorable, with the result that spray pumps have been working overtime in an effort to control spot. In most places the spray programme has been sufficient to cope with the spot trouble, but not altogether and there are some crops showing quite a percentage of infection. The crop

throughout the South Island district is generally fair, but patchy.

There seems to be no reason why adjoining orchards should show such a difference in crop—it seems to be just one little thing that one grower has done that the other has not. It may be the result of past manure programmes and it may have something to do with the spraying programme. The cleanliness of the crop under adverse conditions reflects credit on those who have carried out research in connection with this problem over a period of years, and on the materials being supplied by the fungicidal and insecticidal manufacturers. Colloidal sulphur takes a very prominent part in black spot control in the New Zealand programmes, the quantities used are increasing annually and in commercial areas no Summer programme is considered to be complete without colloidal sulphur as one of the main constituents.

## Prices:

Internal markets should show a good return to the N.Z. producer particularly on stone fruits and Peaches. The absence of Hawke's Bay supply will be felt severely in the North Island and will attract considerable quantities from the South Island with advantage to the price level in the Southern markets.

So far there has been very little activity in export prices. We are advised that some operators are purchasing export Apples in Otago at 6/6 and 7/- per case, f.o.b., for the average varieties and 9/- for Corbin. Naturally early varieties will be in greater demand particularly for shipments to reach England prior to the Coronation.

There is still no definite announcement from the Government as to the amount of the Guarantee for 1937, but it is reported that the Guarantee will apply to the Fruit Board districts only. In most quarters it is expected that the rate will be about 10/6 c.i.f. New Zealand currency, which will show a return to the grower of approximately 6/3 to 6/6 f.o.b. according to the amount per case. Government stipulate as a reserve fund.

## Marketing Commission:

The report of this Commission still in the course of preparation. The result will be interesting. There are already signs of semi-Government control over imported fruits.

The wholesale price of Jamaican fruit has been fixed by the Government, and permission to import from N.S.W. carried with it a stipulation that both wholesale and retail prices would be fixed.

It is suggested that the next step will be to control the price of Bananas. This development seems to indicate that it will not be long before similar control is being exercised on all fruits. Control is comparatively easy where applied to imported fruit which virtually come through a bottleneck, but it is not going to be quite so easy on the heavy supplies from locally grown sources. As stated in last month's notes, there is no need for even semi-control during the coming season as that has already been effected by Nature.

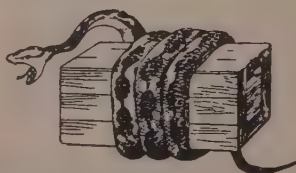
The dear old gentleman got into conversation with the young man sitting opposite him.

"And what is your job, young man?" he asked.

"I travel in underwear," was the reply.

"How curious," said the old man, rubbing his glasses. "And—er—why a cold job it must be in the Winter. Don't you ever catch cold?"

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## BERRY PRICES.

## Minimum Rates Fixed.

The Fruit Industries Sugar Concession Committee advise the following minimum prices for the 1936-37 season. The prices represent a slightly higher rate than those operating last year (which are stated in brackets) at pence per lb.

	For Canning.	For Jam.
Black Currants ..	(3½) 3	(2½) 3
Gooseberries ..	(1½) 1½	(1½) 1½
Loganberries ..	(2½) 2½	(2) 2
Raspberries ..	(3) 3½	(2½) 2½
Strawberries ..	(4) 4½	(3½) 3½

## PRODUCERS' CO-OP. DISTRIBUTING SOCIETY.

## 12½ per Cent. Bonus on Fruit.

The directors' eleventh annual report and aggregate balance sheet of the Society, representing operations to September, 1936, reports a total sales turnover of over £4,000,000. Including £2,237 brought forward from the previous year, the net earnings of the Society were £32,776, of which a sum approximating £27,000 has been returned to shareholders in the form of dividends and bonuses on commissions paid upon dairy produce, canned, dried and fresh fruits, honey, eggs, grain and poultry.

Last year a bonus of 10 per cent. was returned to growers and clients, and this year this return has been raised to 12½ per cent. on fruit and 20 per cent. on butter, whilst a sum of £2,630 has been carried forward.

## A NEW PEACH.

## Kalhaven a Pretty Fruit.

A new variety of Peach has been evolved in Michigan (U.S.A.), and is reported as follows in "The Packer."

The South Haven station has just released its new seedling No. 10, christened the Kalhaven, to Michigan nurseries for propagation. Pomologists consider it one of the prettiest of all Peaches. It was originated by crossing the Kalamazoo variety with the J. H. Hale. Its name was derived by taking the first three letters of Kalamazoo and combining them with the first two letters of Hale and the last three letters of South Haven, thus producing Kalhaven.

The Kalhaven trees and buds are winter hardy, according to Superintendent Stanley Johnston, its originator. The tree also is a prolific bearer, ripening its fruit about a week earlier than the Elberta. The skin is highly colored and the Peach takes its color while it is still firm, making it a good shipper. The fruit is a free-stone with yellow flesh. The blossoms, unlike the Hale bloom, are self-fertile and do not require setting with other varieties to insure cross fertilisation.

Mother (teaching her son arithmetic): "Now, take the Smith family—there's mummy, daddy, and the baby, How many does that make?"

Bright Son: "Two and one to carry."

Alf.: "You won't believe it, but my teacher doesn't know what a horse is."

Jim: "That can't be true, surely."

Alf.: "But it is true. I drew a horse, and she asked me what it was!"

## TASMANIA

## FRUIT CROP FORECAST FOR 1936-1937.

Apple Crop Estimated at 4½ Million Bushels.

Pears Around 206,000 Bushels.

**THE PRELIMINARY FRUIT CROP** estimates based on returns furnished by a large number of orchardists throughout the State have now been compiled by the Department of Agriculture, and indicate an Apple crop ranging around normal. The Pear crop, though better than last year, is not expected to exceed 75 per cent. normal.

Weather conditions have up to the present time been favorable to fruit development, and being drier than usual, fungal organisms have not been prevalent. Stone fruits are variable and berry fruits, though affected to some extent by the recent drought, promise medium crops.

## Apples.

Conditions for blossoming were good, and in almost all varieties, flowering was particularly heavy. Last year it was estimated that 1,500 acres were temporarily out of production through re-working, and whilst possibly some 300 or 400 acres have returned to production, a further 1,000 acres have been changed over this year. A fairly heavy drop has been experienced in one or two varieties and hail has reduced crops in the Channel and Cygnet areas to some extent. Spraying has, however, been done more thoroughly and less disease is present than at the same period last year.

In the north, following the good crop harvested last year, Apples are estimated at about 80 per cent. normal, whilst in the South production should range from 90-95 per cent.

## Varieties.

1. Generally heavy to very heavy crops throughout the State are present on Cleo., Jonathan, Sturmer, Worcester, and Granny Smith.

2. Average crops are present on Duke of Clarence, Democrat, Tasmania's Pride and Delicious.

3. Variable crops are present on Cox's, Dunn's, French Crab and Scarlet Pearmain, with Alfristons and Crofton inclined to be light.

The average commercial crop for the past six years amounts to approximately 4½ million bushels; with this basis it is anticipated that under normal weather conditions 4,275,000 bushels will be produced.

## Pears.

Almost all varieties blossomed very heavily, and with sunny weather prevailing it was anticipated that the crop would be heavy, particularly since last year had been light. However, the drop has been considerable, light frosts and two days of hot northerly winds having contributed towards this.

The northern crop is rather less than in the south, and south-eastern districts better than most parts of the Huon.

## Varieties.

1. Normal crops are being carried by Williams, and Beurre Clairegeau, whilst Beurre Bosc follows closely.

2. Josephine, Giblins, Bergamotte, Winter Cole, and Winter Nelis vary from 70-80 per cent., and Doyenne du Comice within even wider limits.

3. Glou Morceau set heavily, but dropped so extensively that only poor crops are being now carried.

The average commercial crop for the past six years is approximately 275,000 bushels; with this basis the present crop will approach 75 per cent., or 206,000 bushels.

## Stone Fruits.

Apricots blossomed very irregularly, and the set on mature trees was often poor; however, up to the present time disease is practically negligible, and if reasonable rains are experienced the crop may reach 60 per cent. or more.

Plums are generally a good crop, exceeding normal in some districts; much however, will now depend on adequate rains between now and harvesting.

Peaches and Cherries also vary around a normal crop, aphids has, however, been troublesome and has reduced the crop where spraying was neglected in Winter.

Quinces are below normal in most districts.

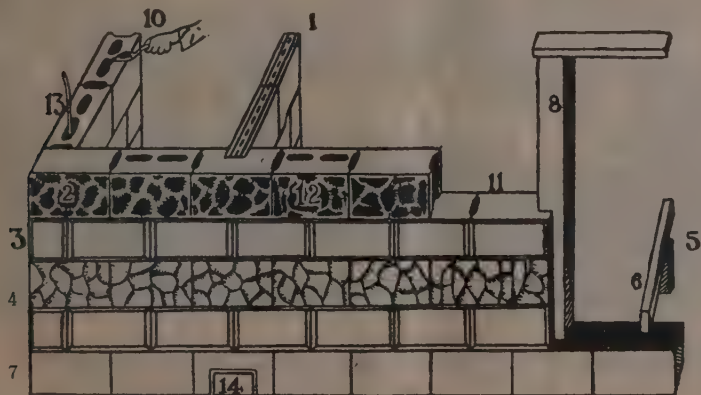
## Berry Fruits.

With the exception of Strawberries, young beds of which suffered severely from the prolonged drought, and Raspberries which were extensively injured by heavy winds during November, berry fruits are yielding a normal crop. Black Currants look well but as they are naturally dependent on Summer rainfall, accurate forecasts are difficult.

## THE LIGHTNING HOME BUILDER.

The attention of readers is called to the advertisement of the Lightning Home Builder machine appearing in this issue. The "Lightning" is a cement block making machine which affords the man on the land a simple, efficient and economical method of erecting buildings which are definitely fireproof, white ant proof and everlasting.

The illustration herewith shows how easily any form of house, garage, fruit-shed or other building can be erected by using cement blocks. Readers who may desire further information should communicate with the manufacturer, Mr. Geo. W. Mawman, Black Rock, or Messrs. J. H. Rudd & Co. Pty. Ltd., 103 William-street, Melbourne.



Section of Cement Wall as described hereunder.

## Particulars of Wall as illustrated above.

- No. 1 shows 4-in. Partition Block. This Block may be used for continuous cavity walls.
- No. 2 shows 15-in. x 6-in. x 8-in. Corner Block, makes bonding come even.
- No. 3 shows the Chamfered Edge Blocks. Chamfered fittings, 10/- extra.
- No. 4 shows Cobblestone Block, 10/- extra.
- No. 5 shows Block for Floor or Building Stump.
- No. 6 shows Floor Joist on Stump.
- No. 7 shows 18-in. x 6-in. x 8-in. Solid Foundation Block, with damp course.
- No. 8 shows Door or Window Frame in position in Recess Blocks.
- No. 9 shows Block with recess for Bonding in partition wall.
- No. 10 shows easy method of mortaring together by filling-in in cavity formed by hollow ends of block meeting.
- No. 11 shows Recessed Block for receiving Door or Window Frame. The black line shows hoop iron to nail to frame.
- No. 12 shows Rock-faced Blocks, 10/- extra.
- No. 13 shows hoop iron inserted in hollow blocks, then filled with concrete to secure roof plate.
- No. 14 shows Block formed for receiving Air Vent.

## NEW PRE-COOLING UNITS FOR FRUIT.

Portable pre-cooling units mounted on trucks are being used to pre-cool fruit loaded into refrigerator cars in the Sacramento-Roseville area this season, reports the "Pacific Rural Press."

One of the major problems faced in pre-cooling fruit has been the time it took to bring the fruit to the proper low temperature. This new system is said to reduce the time from one-third to one-half under other systems being used at present. For instance, Pears were cooled in eight hours with this new system, taking as long as 24 hours by other methods.

The unit, which is an ammonia refrigeration plant, using a full-flooded system is claimed by the operators to be one of the most condensed refrigeration plants ever assembled.

These plants not only act as pre-coolers but also serve to purify the air in the refrigerator cars. In the case of Strawberries this is a big advantage because the berries give off detrimental gases.

The refrigerating units which are mounted on a truck and are powered by the truck's motor are driven alongside a refrigerator car. A canvas tunnel is then run from the plant to the car door. Then a canvas baffle is extended from the refrigeration unit over the top of the crates of fruit. The cold air passes over this baffle and is drawn back through the crates and into the refrigeration plant where it is washed, purified and is then re-blown through the car.

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# Export & Commercial News

## Fruit Prices in the Sydney Market

SURVEY OF OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 26  
TO DECEMBER 22, 1936.

Prolonged Drought Broken by General Rains — Parlous Condition of Coastal Citrus Growers — Summer Fruits at Higher Levels — Oranges and Lemons Scarce — Cherry Marketing Generally Satisfactory — Tomato Values Receded but Firmed Again.

(By L. T. Pearce, Market Representative Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W.).

THE DROUGHT that had extended throughout the State of New South Wales since late last Summer, gradually came to an end by the development of humidity followed by rain at the beginning of December. On the 2nd instant, light patchy rains were reported throughout the country, and again on December 11 and 15 rains became general. Fortunately the break in the weather was gradual and considerably less harm was done to the ripening Summer fruits than might have occurred. At the time of going to press a cyclonic disturbance existed throughout the eastern portion of the State, and further rains were being experienced inland.

Unfortunately, the dry conditions experienced had already affected the 1937 citrus crop to such an extent that it is extremely doubtful whether many growers in coastal and metropolitan districts will receive sufficient fruit to enable them to exist. Depressed prices for some years, accentuated by the loss of the New Zealand market, and followed by two successive seasons of drought have made the condition of citrus growers near to Sydney, one that is most unenviable. Not merely has the grower lost his usual income, but the capital value of his property has been reduced by the loss, in many instances, of many trees. Publicity has not been generally given to the fact, but there are many orchardists in the affected area who are receiving food relief and are on the dole, and the maintenance of these men on their properties is regarded as a responsibility which the Government will require to seriously consider.

As a result of seasonal conditions, together with the unusual demand for Oranges for the Eastern markets—a situation created largely by the shipping strike in the U.S.A. — both Oranges and Lemons are unusually scarce. The quota of approximately 12,000 export cases of Oranges being admitted to New Zealand has, as a result, been obtained only with difficulty, and there were prospects that recognition of the obligation of citrus growers to supply this quota, would have meant their doing so at a lower price than was offering in other directions.

Although the early Peaches and Plums from metropolitan sources were small, later districts have forwarded fruit of average size and values have generally been at a higher level. Growers at Lavington, on the southern border of the State, deserve congratulations on the improved quality of their fruit and because of the introduction of new cases attractively stencilled.

The Cherry season is nearing its end, after a satisfactory demand for processing varieties, and generally satisfactory values for most dark types coming to the open market.

After more than two months of high prices, the Tomato market receded on December 4, and by the 9th instant there was an accumulation of ripe and inferior types that were only gradually cleared. The position, however, has recently improved, due to lighter supplies and satisfactory values are again being received for the available quantities of choice fruit.

### Apples:

Between 4,000 and 5,000 cases of Apples have arrived from Tasmania each week, and an approximate similar quantity from Victoria, good values being received for most arrivals. In addition, supplies in cool store in this State were steadily released, owing to the steady demand, and a satisfactory selling period generally is reported. N.S.W. Delicious finished early in the month and supplies of Granny Smith were only small. Crofton and Democrat continued to arrive from Tasmania, and Democrat and Yates chiefly from Victoria. N.S.W. new season fruit was

mostly small, and the month has seen the appearance of Mob's Royal, Carrington, Twenty Ounce and Gravenstein; Allsop's Seedling and Lord Nelson are now almost finished, and the best of the Twenty Ounce and Gravenstein have yet to appear. Prices: For Special and Standard grades — N.S.W., New Season: Allsop's Seedling 4/- to 8/-; Lord Nelson, 4/- to 10/-; Carrington, 4/- to 12/-; Mob's Royal, 5/- to 12/-; Twenty Ounce, 4/- to 13/-; Gravenstein, 4/- to 14/- per bushel. Old Season: Crofton (Tas.), 9/- to 15/-; Democrat (Vic., Tas. and N.S.W.), 9/- to 16/-; Granny Smith (N.S.W.), 14/- to 18/-, few 20/-; Yates (Vic.), 9/- to 14/- per bushel. Plain and "D" grades lower.

### Pears:

The usual few Williams Pears appeared from metropolitan sources and sold at from 6/- to 10/-, according to quality, and the last of the Broome Park from Victoria appeared early in December realising up to 12/- per bushel. Prices: For Special and Standard grades — (local), Williams 6/- to 10/- per bushel.

### Apricots:

Metropolitan grown fruit early in December gave place to supplies of Moorpark and Trevatt from the irrigation area, prices generally being satisfactory. Inland consignments varied from 3,000 to 4,000 cases per day, and these were mostly cleared, values for most of the period being at 5/- to 6/-, while special quality, large sized fruit realised to 8/- and 9/-. A few Bullock's Heart came from the Goulburn district, but this fruit is not popular owing to its dryness, and despite its very high color.

One small consignment only was observed from Victoria. Prices: N.S.W. 4/6 to 6/6, few large to 8/- and 9/- per half case.

### Bananas:

Arrivals on the Sydney market for the period under review totalled approximately 49,000 tropical cases, 45,400 of these coming from N.S.W. and 3,500 from Queensland, while a small consignment of about 300 came from Fiji at the end of November. Drought conditions in the growing areas caused the quality of the fruit to be rather poor and liable to show skin-markings, with the result that until the approach of Christmas values were comparatively low. The average arrivals per week were just over 12,000 cases, as compared with 15,250 cases for the previous month. Prices: According to the Banana Marketing Board, N.S.W. and Qld., regulation graded, first quality fruit. Six inch 13/- to 15/-, seven inch 15/- to 17/-, eight and nine inch 17/- to 19/- per tropical case. Incorrectly graded medium and poor quality lower, specially selected higher.

### Cherries:

The Young district finished forwarding about December 10, the Orange district continuing, and for the first time in the season reached actual heavy deliveries on that date, the quantity on the market being more than 9,000 quarter bushel cases. On December 17, 18, 19 and 21, the arrivals from Orange varied from 11,000 to 16,000 cases, the fruit during this period selling surprisingly well. Cherries throughout the season have kept remarkably well, until the present, when rain in the growing districts has been rather excessive for

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such a soft fruit. Agents, however, report that seldom have they been compelled to offer fruit below 3/6, which fact is a tribute to the quality of the fruit and also to the organisation of the growers in keeping processing Cherries from glutting the market. Prices: Orange—Dark 3/6 to 4/6, few special higher, inferior lower, per quarter bushel case.

#### Citrus Fruits:

**Valencias:** As was pointed out in the introductory remarks, the price for Valencia Oranges was improved partly by their scarcity and partly by the demand for orders in the East and for New Zealand. At the beginning of December, small sizes were still in excessive demand and counts 96 to 138 were in request at 6/- to 8/-. The position, however, gradually changed as inland fruit went to more distant markets and buyers negotiated on the orchard for the growing fruit, the popular sizes becoming counts 138 to 163 at 9/- to 10/-, with a few at 11/-.

At no time has fruit from the irrigation area been available on the open market in any quantity, the chief arrivals comprising a few two bushel crates. A tendency to greenness has been more noticeable in the fruit from coastal districts than has been the case in recent years. Black spot has been noticeable, but probably not to the same extent as was the case during October and November. Probably due to the coarseness of the fruit, counts 72 to 96 have seldom sold at a price above that which would permit of their being retailed at 1d. each.

The inspection of the fruit submitted for export to New Zealand indicated that this was generally true to the grading upon the case, and most of it was of excellent quality. It was only with difficulty that the quota was supplied, and rejections were not considerable.

It is anticipated that supplies of Valencias remaining to be marketed are not considerable, although some growers, where the condition of the trees permitted, have allowed their fruit to hang in anticipation of better values after Christmas. Prices: N.S.W. Special and Standard: Local—Counts 88 to 125, 7/- to 9/-; counts 138 to 163, 9/- to 10/-, few 12/-; counts 175 to 216, 7/- to 9/-; counts 234 to 270, 5/- to 7/- per bushel. Inland: 7/- to 12/- per bushel. Plain grade, 5/- to 8/- per bushel. Two bushel crates—Inland: Plain, 13/- to 15/-, standard 16/- to 18/-.

**Grapefruit:** Supplies throughout the month have been inconsiderable, and due to the shipping strike in the U.S.A., supplies from that source have not appeared during this month. Prices: N.S.W. Special and Standard. Counts 56 to 96, 6/- to 8/-, special 10/- to 12/-, few 14/-, plain 3/- to 5/- per bushel.

**Lemons:** Medium and small sized fruit has been in request and the few large sizes (counts 88 to 96) have only met with weak request. Supplies were not considerable, and towards the middle of December even plain grade fruit—providing it was small to medium in size—sold at a satisfactory figure. Very small consignments only arrived from inland sources, the value of this fruit usually being a little higher than that from coastal sources. The shortage of Lemons is now apparent and fruit is appearing from Victoria and South Australia, some special blue ribbon brand from Victoria at the present time being valued at from 12/- to 17/-, while S. Aust., at the end of last week, sold around 11/- per bushel. It is anticipated that supplies from the M.I.A. are a little larger than is usual in the Summer, but good values are expected for this fruit, as is indicated by sales to 18/- at the present time. Prices: N.S.W. Special and Standard.

Counts 88 to 96, 5/- to 8/-; counts 113 to 150, 8/- to 10/-; counts 163 to 252, 10/- to 12/-, few 14/- per bushel. Vic., 12/- to 17/-; S. Aust. to 11/- per bushel. Plain grade, 5/- to 8/-; inland, 9/- to 15/-, few 18/- per bushel.

**Grapes:** A few cases of Black Muscat have arrived from Queensland,

the first realising 20/- per half bushel, the present values being 12/- to 15/- per half bushel.

**Gooseberries:** Supplies from Young finished at the end of November, small quantities from Orange taking their place. Tasmania has forwarded steadily, some of the fruit latterly being of large size. Prices: Orange

3/- to 4/6 per quarter bushel case. Tasmania 3/6 to 7/- per half bushel case.

**Mangoes:** Apple Mangoes appeared at the end of November, this name being used to signify all those types except the Turpentine. The Turpentine variety continued to appear but were practically unsaleable along-



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side the more favored types. Quantities have approximated around 1,000 cases per week, and values are 8/- to 10/-, with some special to 14/- per bushel.

**Nectarines:** Only a few of these have appeared from districts near Sydney, values varying from 4/- to 10/- per half bushel. Victorian, 9/- per half case.

**Plums:** Santa Rosa are now practically finished, the chief arrivals comprising Burbank, Shiro, Blood and Wickson Seedling with a few Fisher, Formosa and Diamond. At all times large sized fruit has been in request and good values were received for popular types. The Burbank, Shiro and Diamond types, however, are not popular. Fruit from metropolitan sources this year has been practically free of the breakdown usually apparent, and there has been little opportunity for jam buyers to operate. Prices: Most sales 4/- to 6/-, inferior and small from 2/6, special 7/- to 8/-, few Fisher and Formosa to 10/- per half bushel. Angelina 8/- per half case.

**Peaches:** Due to the season being an early one, Carmen, Wiggins and

Aunt Becky from metropolitan sources are now at their peak, the usual over supply not being apparent. Of particularly good quality have been the Brigg's, Hale's and High's Early Canada from the Lavington and Young districts until the present time. Seasonal conditions have assisted the grower, and experience has apparently indicated the advisability of picking the fruit in a greener state and of packing in a new case with greater care. Recent rains have affected the quality to a certain extent, and this week values for inland arrivals had to be reduced in the endeavor to clear ripening fruit. Blackburn and Elberta from the Windsor district are expected on the market at any time, and High's Early Canada have appeared in bushel cases from the irrigation area and from Young. Due to the extensive use that has been made of the passenger train for delivery of perishable fruits during the Summer the Railway Department has been approached regarding the unsatisfactory delivery of such arrivals at Central Station, and it is hoped that—instead of missing the market as has been frequently the case, and arriving in a damaged condition, this

costly method of transport will be improved. Prices: N.S.W.: Most sales 4/- to 6/-, inferior and ripe from 2/6, few special large 7/- to 9/- per half bushel. Inland 8/- to 12/- per bushel.

**Passionfruit:** Queensland arrivals have approximated 1,800 cases and deliveries from N.S.W. have not been extensive. Values have been steady up to 10/- and 12/- for choice fruit throughout most of the month. Prices: N.S.W.: North Coast, 10/- to 12/-, few 16/- Qld., 8/- to 10/-, special 15/- per half case.

**Pineapples:** Arrivals from Queensland approximated 6,000 cases, prices continuing comparatively steady. The Queen variety has been preferred when coming from the Bowen district, while fruit from Southern Queensland, the Ripley variety and second crop fruit have usually been sold at lower prices. Prices: Qld. (Bowen) Queen: Counts 12 to 15, 13/- to 15/-; counts 18 to 24, 15/- to 17/-, few 18/-; counts 27 to 36, 12/- to 13/- per tropical case. Southern Queensland and Ripley variety lower.

**Papaws:** Deliveries have dropped to around 1,000 cases for the period under review as compared with 2,000 cases for the previous month, and values were steady from 10/- to 18/- per tropical case.

**Melons:** Rock Melons, Honeydews, Californian Cremes and Cantaloups, have appeared from Queensland, the quality generally being quite good. Some loss occurred through the absence of ventilation in the crates used and through the excessive use of woodwool, but these difficulties now appear to be overcome and prices are mostly at 13/- to 16/- per tropical case. Prices: Qld. Rock Melons 8/- to 12/- per bushel. Qld.: Mundubera 13/- to 16/- per tropical case.

**Strawberries:** Supplies have only been small, due to weather conditions and most sales have been at 6/- to 8/-, with special fruit to 12/-, and have at times reached to 18/- per dozen punnets.

**Tomatoes:** Despite the lightness of the metropolitan crop the quantity of ripe fruit exceeded the demand at the beginning of December, and values receded considerably. Central North Coast supplies eased and only a few came from S. Aust. and Victoria, the interstate arrivals ceasing when the market crashed. It is probable that the quality of the majority of arrivals affected the price and in some quarters it is believed that there was a reaction on the part of the public against the high prices that had ruled. Glasshouse arrivals gave place to fruit from outdoor sources in N.S.W. An improvement took place in this

market about the 21st instant, but the range of prices varied considerably. At the present time most sales of Central North Coast fruit, coming from the Nambucca River, would be around 4/- to 8/-, while special Coff's Harbor would realise to 14/- and even 18/- per half bushel. Amongst the local arrivals most sales would be at 4/- to 8/-, with special quality to 12/- and even 16/- per half bushel. A few bushel cases from Victoria are at present on the market, values varying according to quality.

:: :: ::

N.B.: At the time of posting this report the Wednesday market was complete, values of most lines being considerably enhanced and a better Christmas market experienced than for some years. Victorian Tomatoes in bushel case sold at from 14/- to 18/- per bushel case.

#### BRITISH APPLE MARKET.

Degree of Stability Developing ::  
British Apple Crop Around 15,000,000 Bushels :: Bramleys Now Being Stored.

In a summary of the British Apple situation issued by the Canadian Fruit Trade Commissioner in London for the week ending October 16, it is stated that there is some evidence that a degree of stability is beginning to develop in the market.

Early cookers are disappearing from the market and bulk supplies are now only confined to C.O.P. and Bramley. A very large volume of fruit is being placed in storage, and gas storage plants which have been considerably increased in capacity during the past year, are now in process of being filled with Bramley Seedling, and a small quantity of C.O.P.

The 1936 Apple crop is stated to be about 75 per cent. of the yield of 1934, which indicated production at approximately 15,000,000 bushels, of which it is estimated that 6 per cent. is Cox's Orange, 18 per cent. Worcester Pearmain, and the remainder (76 per cent.) mostly culinary. The crop of C.O.P. is estimated at 900,000 bushels, and Bramley 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 bushels.

#### U.S.A. APPLE CROP.

Apples Generally Light, but Heavy Crops are in Washington and Oregon

Latest reports from U.S.A. indicate that the U.S.A. commercial Apple crop for 1936 is 65,500,000 bushels, as compared with 93,866,000 bushels in 1935. As the average is 97,895,000 bushels, it will be seen that the 1936 crop is a very low one, being estimated, in fact, at 1 per cent. below the previous low crop of 1921. The Middle West and Atlantic Coast areas show the greatest reduction.

The principle competitors with Australia, however, are the States of Washington and Oregon. Comparative figures show that whereas the Washington 1936 crop is slightly less than that of the 1935, the Oregon production has advanced. The figures are as follows:—

	1935.	1936.
	Bushels.	Estimated Bushels.
Washington .	21,362,000	20,638,000
Oregon . . .	2,131,000	2,808,000

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Tasmania: State Fruit Advisory Board.  
New South Wales: Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co. Ltd.  
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References:— Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket, Sydney  
and Growers throughout Australia

**CITY FRUIT MARKETS, SYDNEY**



## ZONING OF FRUIT DISTRICTS.

## Export and Home Markets.

Important proposals for the zoning of fruitgrowing districts into two areas are being considered by the Department of Commerce. The zones proposed are:—Zone A, districts producing fruit for export; zone B, districts producing fruit for consumption in the Australian market.

The zoning proposals are the outcome of a discovery by research officers of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. These investigations have shown that the keeping quality and the storage life of certain types of fruit vary to an appreciable degree, according to the localities in which they are grown.

This differentiation applies particularly to citrus fruits, such as Oranges. Thus, Oranges grown in one district have been found to keep much better in storage than the same variety and quality of fruit grown in another district. The implications of this discovery for the export trade are far-reaching. Hitherto it has been assumed that an export shipment of fruit of a similar variety and quality would reach an overseas market in a uniform state of preservation. But the investigations of the council show that many export shipments have been affected in general quality and price because of the mixing of fruit from different districts.

The Department of Commerce is considering means by which this discovery can be applied to marketing. The zoning system, which is receiving serious consideration, operates on the principle that the advantage of producers generally may best be served if the whole of the export pack is obtained only from those districts the fruit from which has been proved to stand up well under prolonged storage. Fruit for Australian consumption would then be obtained solely from districts producing fruit with a shorter storage life.

## CARDBOARD FRUIT CASES.

## Said to be Better Than Wood.

Many manufacturing industries have long been using cardboard boxes instead of wood boxes for packing their goods for distribution, and an American company has now put on the market a range of cardboard boxes for the carriage of fresh fruits. It is known as the Ferguson Cushion Carrier and comes from Baltimore.

After ten years' research and experiment, they claim that the cardboard box is perfect for fruit transportation, lighter in weight, strongly constructed, well ventilated by two slits on each side and a flue down the centre permitting the escape of gases and circulation of cold air, better for display purposes, lends itself to colourful labelling and can be had in different colors if desired.

## SEASIDE CAMPS FOR COUNTRY PEOPLE.

Holiday camps for country people have been organised by the Country People's Holiday Camps Association. This year's camp is at Rosebud, near Dromana.

The camp is fully booked for most of January, but there are vacancies from January 30 to February 13. The inclusive costs are as follow:—

## Board and Lodging.

Adults . . . . . £1 per week  
Children (10-14 years) 12/6 per week  
Children (3-9 years) . 10/- per week  
Children (under 3 years) 5/- per week

Intending campers must provide their own linen and cutlery, everything else will be provided.

For application forms, apply Miss Alice Currie, 25 Tintern-avenue, Toorak, S.E.2.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

## Year Book of Agriculture, U.S.A.

We have received the 1936 issue of "Year Book of Agriculture" prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture. The book contains 1,189 pages crammed full of the most elaborately prepared information upon all agricultural matters in that country. In their thorough manner, the Department of Agriculture shows statistical records, historical data, developmental methods, laboratory and experimental results, technical and scientific discoveries during the previous year and a wealth of information upon all phases of primary production.

America is one country which believes in assisting primary production, and the staff of the Department of Agriculture includes the most expert officers available. Fruits, vegetables, grains, cotton, sugar cane, tobacco, livestock, poultry, propagation, breeding, and all practical and scientific methods are fully discussed. The year book is one of the most comprehensive records of many such which come to our desk.

Head Warder: Ten prisoners have broken out, sir.

Governor: Have you given the alarm?

Head Warder: I sent for the doctor. He thinks it's measles.

## FIRMS IN THE FRUIT TRADE

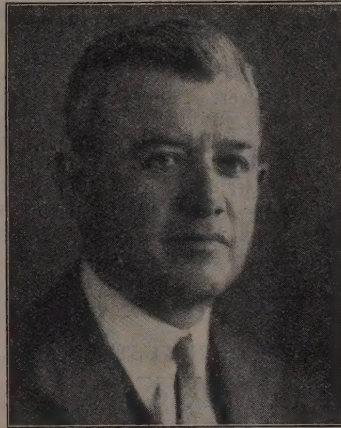
## HOPKINS &amp; LIPSCOMBE.

## No. 15 Series, N.S.W.

THE firm of Hopkins and Lipscombe is an old-established fruit agency business that is controlled by Mr. Stanley G. Pogson, who took charge of the business about twelve

business at the old Fruit Exchange in Bathurst-street.

When Mr. Pogson took over the business twelve years ago, he had already had twenty-one years' experience of the fruit trade with the firm of F. H. G. Rogers and was thus fully equipped to assume control of a business that needed an energetic man to expand its activities. Still carrying on under the name of Hopkins and Lipscombe, Mr. Pogson has certainly placed this business on a high level, and has earned the confidence and respect of all connected with the trade. He is highly regarded by growers and agents alike for his unassuming manner and honesty of purpose. He is a member of the fruit section of the Chamber of Commerce, and can always be relied on to assist in anything that will make for better relations between grower and agent.



Mr. S. G. Pogson.

years ago at the City Markets. The old firm was established in 1875 in York-street, and later carried on

## NEW REGISTRATION.

Samson Spray Equipment Co., 18 Gorman-street, Marrickville (Sydney), manufacture of spray equipment. Com. 15/9/36. Propr.: Samuel H. Smith. Reg. 25/11/36.

# The PRINCIPAL Fruit Merchants and Exporters of SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## Silbert Sharp and Bishop Ltd.

FRUIT MERCHANTS — EXPORTERS — COMMISSION SALESMEN  
BANANA IMPORTERS AND RIPENERS

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All Gardeners' Requirements.  
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FRESH FRUIT SPECIALIST,  
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## H. M. Charlick

### J. H. Dunning

Exporters of APPLES and PEARS under  
"Southern" and "Adam & Eve" Brands

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Growers! Consign your Fruit To

## H. C. Austin

Wholesale Fruit and Produce Merchant, General  
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## S. E. Norsworthy & Co.

### Gumeracha

FRUIT EXPORTERS AND MERCHANTS

Specialising in Apple and Pear Export.

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"A Marketing Society Founded by Returned Soldier Growers."

Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Merchants, Growers,  
Commission Agents, and Exporters.

New Market, Adelaide

The best recommendation we have to offer comes from growers with whom we have done business.

Phone: Day, Cent. 6974.  
Night, L 5447.

Box 238C, G.P.O.,  
Adelaide.

## FOR SALE

### "Lightning"

APPLE OR ORANGE GRADER

Will Grade to Size or Count.

Full particulars from—

HORTICULTURAL PRESS,

Box 18a, G.P.O., Adelaide.



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# Market Notes and Prices

## VICTORIA.

### Market Report for December.

**A**LTHOUGH the 1936 Christmas was pronounced by the big departmental stores as the busiest for many years, and there seemed to be more money about, the wholesale fruit markets reported a normal season. December was quiet to brisk according to the weather, which was rather unsettled in the first half. The month closed with stocks well cleaned up at workable prices. No glut and no scarcity, but nice steady business would best describe it.

**Citrus:** Owing to light supplies in all lines, the movement was quiet with high prices prevailing. Grapefruit was particularly high and supplies limited.

**Pineapples** were mostly small and of inferior quality, yet prices firmed and the demand was maintained.

**Apples:** Old season varieties normal. A few new season cookers were available, but the quality was not as good as could be desired.

**Bananas:** A fair market was reported. Queensland supplies dropped, but Tweed River shipments filled the breach to a fair demand, supplies satisfactory.

**Apricots** were short supplied and prices were high, brown rot was prevalent.

**Peaches:** Supplies light at end. Earlier supplies suffered from brown rot and were partly received in doubtful condition. Last week quality and supplies satisfactory.

**Nectarines** made an appearance, but the quality was poor, good samples were not yet ready.

**Cherries:** Very good supplies, quality excellent from N.S.W., local supplies indifferent quality, but condition good.

**Peas and Beans** fluctuated with the weather, Christmas supplies sufficient and demand satisfactory.

**Pumpkins** from Queensland were good, local supplies started just before Christmas.

**Berries:** All lines varied with the weather, but the supplies were fair and met the demand which was brisk.

**Melbourne (2/1/37):** Quotations are per bushel case, excepting where otherwise stated. Apples — Eating,

Jons., 4/- to 7/-, a few higher; Del., 5/- to 8/-; R. Beauty, 7/- to 9/-; other varieties, 3/- to 6/-. Do., cooking, 4/- to 6/-, few higher; new season's, 5/- to 8/-. Apricots, 6/- to 9/-. Currants, Red, 3/- to 5/- doz. punnets. Oranges—Navel, Val., 6/- to 9/-, small from 4/- to 7/-; specially selected unwrapped, 6/- to 9/-; specially selected wrapped, 8/- to 13/-. Lemons, average standards, 2/- to 5/-; good standards, to 11/-. Grapefruit, 7/- to 12/-. Loquats, 5/- to 7/-. Peaches, 3/- to 5/-, few higher, inferior lower. Papaws, 10/- to 15/- double case. Plums 6/- to 8/- double case. Cherry Plums, 2/- to 5/-. Bananas, Qld., 6's, 10/- to 13/-; 7's, 11/- to 14/-; 8's and 9's, 13/- to 17/- double case. Pineapples, Queensland, 14/- to 19/-, few specials higher. Passionfruit, 11/- to 16/-.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

**Perth (23/12/36):** Apples, Yates, dumps, 12/6 to 16/- (special to 19/-); G. Smith, 18/- to 21/-; new season's cookers, flats 2/- to 6/-, dumps 7/- to 10/-. Citrus: Vals., flats 4/- to 10/- (special to 13/-); Lemons, 5/- to 10/6. Stone Fruits: Plums, Shiro, 1/- to 4/6, 3/- to 9/- (special to 10/6), 2/- to 7/- (special to 10/-, inferior from 9d.); Cherry, 2/-; Peaches, 4/- to 10/- (special to 15/-); Apricots, 8/- to 12/- (special to 15/-, inferior from 4/-); Nectarines, 7/- to 9/-; other lines: Grapes, open, white, 6/- to 7/-; closed 4/6 to 5/6; Passionfruit, half dumps 6/6 to 13/-; Tomatoes, local, ripe 12/- to 19/3 (special to 21/-), green and half ripe 2/- to 13/-.

## QUEENSLAND.

**Brisbane (17/12/36):** Messrs. Robsons Pty. Ltd. report as follows:—All stone fruits are in plentiful supply and selling freely. Choice Oranges are maintaining firm values and Lemons are in strong demand. All vegetable values have eased slightly.

Apples are selling as follow: — Yates, 11/- to 14/-, small sizes 4/- to 6/-; G. Smiths, 15/- to 17/-; local Stanthorpe cookers to 14/- c/s.

Oranges to 13/-, and Lemons (Victorian) to 15/-, local (Gayndah) to 20/-.

**Stone Fruits:** Apricots, 7/- to 9/-; Nectarines, 6/- to 8/-; Peaches (Wiggins), 8/- and 9/-; Plums—Santa Rosa, 5/- to 7/-; Shiro, 4/- to 6/-; Cherries, Florence 5/- to 7/-, Margarets 6/- to 8/-.

Papaws, 9/- to 12/- tropical case. Pineapples, Smooth-leaf 12/- and 13/- c/s, rough leaf 10/- to 12/- c/s. Passionfruit, choice 7/- and 8/-; Mangoes, 6/- to 10/- c/s; Bananas, 6's 9/- to 11/-, 7's 10/- to 12/6, and 8's 11/- to 14/-.

**Vegetables:** Cabbage, 10/- to 16/- bag; Beans, 5/- to 7/- per 30 lb. bag; Peas, 10/- to 14/- per 30 lb. bag; Cucumbers, 6/- bushel c/s.

**Produce:** Potatoes to 24/- cwt.; Onions to 15/- and 16/- cwt.; Pumpkins, 13/- to 15/- cwt.; S. Potatoes 4/- to 6/- 56 lbs.

**Brisbane (18/12/36):** Messrs. Clark and Jesser report as follows:—The heavy supplies of stone fruit that have come to hand for the past few weeks have caused business to be more brisk. The ruling prices at present are:—Apples: Yates, 10/- to 12/-; cookers, Lord Nelson and Twenty Ounce, 11/- to 12/-. Oranges, 10/- to 12/6. Cherries, 6/- to 7/6. Peaches, Wiggins 6/- to 8/-, Triumph 5/- to 6/-. Plums, Santa Rosa 7/- to 8/-, Burbank 6/- to 7/-, Shiro 6/-. Nectarines, 7/- to 8/-, Apricots, 7/- to 9/-. Mangoes, 8/- to 9/-. Passionfruit, 9/- to 10/-. Papaws, 5/- to 6/- dump case. Pineapples, 12/- to 13/- case. Lemons, 12/- to 13/-. Tomatoes, 10/- to 11/-. Cabbage, 8/- to 10/- chaff bag. Pumpkins, 13/- cwt. Potatoes, 20/- to 22/-. Cucumbers, very plentiful, 4/- to 5/- per bus. case. Bananas, 6's 8/- to 9/-, 7's 10/- to 11/-, 8's 12/-.

Dry weather still continues here and local green vegetables are scarce.

## NEW ZEALAND.

**Dunedin (24/12/36):** Messrs. Reilly's Central Produce Mart Ltd. report as follows:—Christmas week, which promised to be the busiest for some years, was unfortunately spoiled owing to the very heavy rain experienced at the beginning of the week. All lines of fruit and produce in consequence were very short of requirements, and prices show in most instances, a very sharp advance on that

of previous years, vegetables in particular have been bringing very high prices.

Some very fine lines of dessert Peaches are now arriving, and Apricots and Cherry Plums are in heavy supply. For Cherries there has been a keen demand, and good quality consignments are bringing satisfactory values. Supplies of local hothouse Grapes are now being received.

Cool store Apples continue to arrive, some nice lines of Sturmers Del. realising better values. The market is cleared of supplies of Canadian Apples.

Consignments of Pineapples arrived during the week and met with good enquiry. Towards the latter end of the week fair quantities of Strawberry berries, and increased consignments of Raspberries were received.

Values for Tomatoes have kept steady. Larger supplies of Nelson grown are now coming to hand.

Oranges are in short supply, small parcel of N.S.W. Valencia's arrived, and were immediately taken up by retailers.

During the week 250 cases Lemons, sent from Auckland, to relieve the short supply of this fruit from Dunedin, came to hand.

Small parcels of new season's Canterbury Onions of excellent quality are being received. New Potatoes are meeting with good sales.

Eggs: Values remain firm, guaranteed realising 1/4.

Prices (per case): Oranges, N.S.W. Vals., export cases 22/6; Cal. Orange to arrive 40/-; Cal. Lemons, 65/-; Grapefruit, 37/6; ripe Bananas, 30/-; Pines to 26/-; Apples, Del. 7/- to 10/-, Sturmers 6/- to 10/-; Peas Easter Beurre 4/6, W. Nellis 4/6, P. Barry 4/-; N.Z. Lemons, 1/6 to 21/-.

## RIDLEY & HOULDING

### Covent Garden Market, LONDON

Specialists in Australian Fruit.  
Solicit consignments of Apples, Peaches, etc.  
Our record of over 30 years' standing in the handling of Australian fruit, with satisfactory results, is a recommendation for growers to ship their fruit to our house.

REPRESENTATIVES—  
International Fruit & Mercantile Company Ltd., Melb., Vic., Australia.  
Pitts & Lehman, 129 Pitt St., Sydney, N.S.W.; and A. J. Walshe & Co., Hobart, Tasmania.

## SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

All Members  
under  
Fidelity Bond

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the **Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria** the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE.

STAND NUMBERS ARE AS INDICATED IN PARENTHESES.

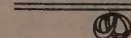
**T. STOTT & SONS (26).**  
**H. L. E. LOVETT & CO. (23).**  
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**J. DAVIS PTY. LTD. (8).**  
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**GOLDEN VALLEY FRUIT CO. PTY. LTD. (15).**  
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**SILBERT, SHARP & DAVIES PTY. LTD. (17).**  
**W. A. WATKINS (5).**  
**P. A. PATRIKEOS (36).**  
**G. WOOLF & SONS (29-30).**  
**F. CAVE & CO. PTY. LTD. (9).**  
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Office : 21 Wholesale Fruit Market,  
Queen Street, Melbourne. Phone F 4866.

Correspondence is invited by the Association.

Ship Your Oranges,  
Lemons, Grapes to  
New Zealand



All consignments for this market will have careful attention and realise highest prices if sent to

**The Co-operative  
Fruitgrowers of Otago  
Limited, Dunedin**

PERSONAL SUPERVISION  
OF  
EVERY CONSIGNMENT.

Cheques posted promptly.

Drop us a Line or Cable:  
"Peachbloom," Dunedin.



# Value of Empire Fruit Conferences

## LORD STRATHCONA'S TRIBUTE

It was unfortunate that at the Imperial Economic Conference, which was held at Ottawa in 1932, writes Lord Strathcona, Chairman of the 1936 Empire Fruit Producers' Conference, in "The Empire Producer," there was a lack of co-ordination between the representatives from the various Dominions as to the requirements of the fruit industry.

Hastily convened meetings of advisers were called, so that the views of "the other fellow" could be learned. These meetings were conducive of some good, and the British Empire Producers' Organisation was asked to convene a conference of Empire Fruit Producers in London. In the conference held last June, many of those present at Ottawa and at the 1934 conference attended.

The 1934 conference was confined to

the Apple and Pear industry, and resulted in the formation of the Empire Apple and Pear Council. It is the Chairman's conviction that similar councils will soon be formed to deal with other fruits. One fact said to have emerged from the 1934 conference was that inter-Dominion competition is being scrapped, and co-operation taking place between Empire producing countries.

Considerable progress has been made in the pooling of ideas, and the co-ordinating of market information, and it has been discovered that each Dominion has similar problems which can be best solved by collective action and with the guidance of the Empire Apple and Pear Council. Periodical conferences of Empire Fruit Producers cannot fail to effect benefits upon all.

## FLY SPRAYS

With the coming hot weather the ubiquitous pest, the common fly, will be with us in full force, and will become not only a nuisance, but a carrier of all sorts of troubles. "Swat the fly" is good advice, and keeping down flies by sprays becomes a necessity.

The U.S. Bureau of Dairy Industry reports good success with a fly spray made by soaking five pounds of unground, partly opened pyrethrum flowers in 10 gallons of kerosene and 5 quarts of fuel oil. The pyrethrum flowers are placed in a bag consisting of double cheese cloth, and should be kept in the oil for 24 to 48 hours before the solution is used. This spray is particularly recommended for spraying and killing flies

as they gather on the ceiling and walls in large numbers.

Other formulae for home-made fly repellants that have been suggested are:—One gallon fish oil, 2 ounces oil of pine tar, 2 ounces pennyroyal, and half a pint of kerosene.

Four pounds cresol or crystal carbolic acid, 4 pounds oil of myrbane, 4 pounds of sassafras or encalyptus, 25 gallons pale paraffine, 4 gallons heavy castor oil, and 22 gallons of kerosene.

Many other mixtures have been suggested from time to time. If one has time and can secure the necessary materials they may prove satisfactory. As a rule, however, we suggest the use of a ready mixed fly spray as being the best and possibly the cheapest in the long run.

# Cincturing the Zante Currant

## ADVICE TO GROWERS

By D. G. Quinn, Departmental Instructor

**M**UCH DAMAGE to vines and crops can result from the misuse of cincturing tools, says Mr. D. G. Quinn, special Horticultural Instructor for the Victorian Department of Agriculture, in the Department's journal.

The Zante Currant always has been noted for its vigor and its tendency to shed its crop shortly after the flowering period. In the early days of viticulture in Australia this tendency was offset by the use of the T-piece trellis, and the laying down of 12 to 20 rods per vine. Even so, only light yields per acre and small irregular sized fruit were obtained. The area planted to this variety was comparatively small and confined to fertile flats in non-irrigated districts. Just prior to Federation, a Mr. W. C. Grasby, on his return from a visit to the Levant, reported that he had observed that the Grecian peasants adopted the practice of annular incision at flowering time, this practice largely overcoming the shy-setting characteristic of the variety, thus obviating the necessity of rod pruning. Since that time the practice has become general throughout Australia, and the variety can now be relied upon to crop regularly with spurs only.

Plants, if seriously weakened through any cause, tend to direct all their energy towards fruit and seed production, presumably to provide for the continuance of the species when circumstances again become favorable, and such horticultural arts as cincturing, pinching back, topping, pruning, etc., are applied to counter-balance these natural tendencies.

The main problems with which the grower is faced relate to the finer details, such as the date to cincture, and how to cincture. Cincturing may be defined as a special Spring treatment applied solely to the Zante Currant vine, in order to restrict the growth of the plant at flowering time, prevent abscission, and so induce a more even setting of the fruit than otherwise would be the case. The operation consists of completely removing a narrow ring of bark from around the stem of each vine. It is performed when about two-thirds of the corollas or caps have fallen from the flowers. It may be well to mention that the crude sap from the roots flows up the sapwood layer to the foliage, and, after elaboration (in the leaves) to a complete plant food, portion of it returns down the green bark layer to nourish the root system.

The immediate effect of the cincture is to impede the return of the elaborated sap from the foliage to the root system for a period of five to seven weeks, thus preventing the rapid root extension which naturally takes place during this Spring period. The retention of the elaborated sap causes the stem immediately above the cincture to become slightly swollen, and prevents the root system from receiving the normal supply of elaborated sap, upon which its growth depends. As a result, the supply of crude sap during the fol-

lowing few weeks is not increased to the extent that it would have been had the cincture not been applied. By delaying the normal rapid Spring growth of the vine, during and shortly after the flowering period, the tendency of the vigorous plant to cast its freshly set crop is overcome.

The check induced by the cincture should not last long, the disconnected tissues should bridge over the wound at an early date, and so allow the sap circulation to resume its customary course. If a complete ring of green bark (bast), not more than 1/12th of an inch in width, nor deeper than the bark layer, be removed, the chances of this taking place rapidly are increased. The wounded tissues heal more rapidly and thoroughly if protected against the drying effects of the wind and sun, and a strip of waxed calico should be wrapped round the wound. Performed correctly, it will be found that, within four to six weeks, the cincture will be completely bridged over by newly-formed callus, and the circulation of sap will then proceed normally.

When carefully carried out, this mild form of ring-barking has no ill-effects on the vine, but it should be repeated every year to secure satisfactory returns from this variety. If, however, the operation has been carelessly done, one year is sufficient to curtail the future energy of the plantation.

It must be realised that cincturing is a mild form of ring-barking. Deep cincturing approaches either the woodman's practice of "sap" ringing or "frilling" the sapwood after ringing, both of which are far more liable to lead to fatal results. For this reason the saw is not advocated as a cincturing tool. The knife, which is recommended, was evolved from the bent hoop-iron idea; the two parallel cutting edges should be sharpened and set less than one-eighth of an inch apart, and the section joining the cutting edges should be filed back a little, so that it cleans out the bark but does not gouge out the cambium and sapwood layers.

## Apricot Nectar

### A New Fruit Juice.

Adding to the already long list of fruit juice drinks becoming increasingly popular in U.S.A. is now announced the newest recruit in Apricot Nectar. The laboratories have been working on this product for several years in an attempt to catch the actual fresh Apricot flavour, and have now reached a satisfactory formula which received ready favor last season in America.

It is explained in the "Western Canner and Packer" that pure Apricot juice is unpalatable, and a certain amount of pulp had to be added to produce the natural Apricot flavor. In order to comply with legal requirements and because sugar and water are added to the fresh pulp, the name "Apricot Nectar" has to be used.

## THE BREEDING OF PIGS

### Select Mature Stock

**I**N a paper recently read at a conference of farmers at Gumeracha (S.A.), Mr. O. G. Ayton, of Adelaide, gave some good advice upon the breeding of pigs.

#### The Boar.

The boar occupies a prominent place in the breeding of pigs, and I advise the keeping of a pure breed of any type. The type most suitable for present requirements is a long lean boar, with a good depth of body and fineness of bone. The boar should be selected from a large litter. He should always be kept in good condition, and given plenty of exercise in an open yard with good housing. The boar should not be mated with sows until he is at least 6 months old, and not allowed to run with the sows indiscriminately.

#### The Sow.

Sows also should be selected from large litters, should have at least 12 teats, and be of a quiet nature. Do not start breeding from sows too young, it checks growth, and usually results in a lot of small mothers. The first cross, the progeny of pure bred parents, makes good mothers. Sows do better if they are run in paddocks, brought about three weeks

before farrowing, and kept in a good, warm pen with guard rails to protect the young pigs. Keep the sow in good condition, and do not let her get too fat. After farrowing, the sow requires very little food for the first day or two, and her food should be increased as the young pigs grow. The pigs should be weaned at 7 or 8 weeks old. When they are one month old, try to feed the young pigs apart from the sow. They will get on more quickly and will not be such a drag on the sow. At farrowing time, do not give the sow too much bedding—the shorter the straw the better. Keep the sow and pen as clean as possible just before farrowing. Remove and destroy all deformed and puny pigs.

#### The Young Pigs.

After the young pigs are weaned, they should be run in paddocks with a good dry shelter, free from draughts. If possible, milk should be added to their food. Feed as often as possible for the first two weeks. When pigs are well grown they can be brought into small yards or pens, and finished off for market. A bacon pig will be required to be a long animal with a deep body and not too fat, weighing from 115 to 130 lbs.



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# VALUE OF FRUIT

## Sydney Doctor's Advice

ACCORDING to Dr. J. S. Purdy, D.S.O., M.D., F.R.S.E., medical Officer for Health in New South Wales, there is abundant evidence that the constituents of the body—flesh-forming substances, fats, starches, salts and water—when supplied in abundance paradoxically will not maintain life and health. There are certain constituents of the plant world now known as “vitamins,” or accessory food factors, which must be added to the diet if health and growth are to be maintained.

The main sources of one of the most valuable vitamins are fresh fruits, especially Oranges and Lemons. Fruit juices, generally speaking, are sources of all vitamins, and, in particular, that which prevents scurvy. Captain Cook was able to bring the crew of the “Endeavour” fit and well to Sydney

because he used plenty of Lemon juice, decoctions of malted Barley, and other vitamin-containing fresh food. Scurvy now has no terrors for explorers, provided with Orange and Lemon juice.

Most sun-dried fruits are not only sources of vitamins, but are also rich in the valuable mineral salts. Raisins contain calcium magnesium, potassium, phosphorus, and iron, in such valuable amounts that, according to Mr. Alma Baker, “Every athlete, every mother, every child, should cultivate the Raisin Habit, as it increases the red corpuscles in the blood by its iron content. If girls would make a habit of eating Raisins daily they would discard the rouge pot.

Organic salts in fruit arouse the appetite and aid digestion by increasing the flow of saliva and gastric juices. They render the blood less

alkaline, and increase the phosphates in the red blood cells.

### Tonic and Stimulant.

Raspberries and Strawberries, being highly acid, clear the blood of uric acid, and act as a tonic and stimulant. The Strawberry also contains much iron, and is valuable in anaemia. Thus Strawberries and cream is both appetising and nutritious.

The Apple, the “King of Fruits,” contains potash, soda, magnesia and phosphorus, and is an excellent brain and nerve food, with tonic and laxative properties. The acid of the Apple is excellent for the teeth and gums. “An Apple a day keeps the doctor away.” “Two Apples a day keep the dentist at bay.”

The Banana, the “bread of the tropics,” shares with Dates, Figs, Grapes and nuts, high nutritive properties. Is possesses, when quite ripe, 20 per cent. of sugar, and should be eaten when the skin is almost black.

Fruits should be eaten raw on an empty stomach, or combined with nuts. On a diet of fruit and nuts, the coloring the skin improves, the complexion

becomes clear, and the eyes bright. The temper improves, as there are no toxins to be eliminated.

As a health insurance, we require a well-balanced diet, to eschew food but to chew our food, and not forget to eat fruit.

### APPLES FOR HEALTH.

The Orchardists' and Cool Stores Association is to be commended for putting out a leaflet telling the public how Apples are recommended by doctors, dentists and dietitians. These are available to and are being distributed by retail fruit shops in an attempt to induce the public to eat more Apples.

This is only one form of advertising that should be launched and continued. There can be no doubt that such campaigns are conducive to increased consumption of fruit, and if the public can be educated to include more fresh fruit and fruit dishes in their regular diet, not only will growers benefit, but the health of the people will be improved.

### BERRY PRICES FOR 1936-37.

Minimum Rates Reported to be Higher Than Last Season.

MINIMUM PRICES at which berry fruits may be sold for processing in Australia in the 1936-37 season were fixed on November 17 by the Fruit Industries Sugarcane Concession Committee, which met in Melbourne. No official announcement was made regarding the prices fixed but it is understood the prices are to be slightly higher than those in operation last season. The minimum prices which operated last season were as follows:—

	For Canning.	For Jam.
	Per lb.	Per lb.
Black Currants .. ..	3½d.	2½d.
Gooseberries .. ..	1½d.	1½d.
Loganberries .. ..	2½d.	2d.
Raspberries .. ..	3d.	2½d.
Strawberries .. ..	4d.	3½d.

### ENGLISH READER APPRECIATE “FRUIT WORLD.”

The Editor,  
Sir,  
We should like to take this opportunity of saying that your publication is undoubtedly in the forefront concerning matters appertaining to fruit and horticulture in general. We derive much enjoyment from reading the up-to-date news you publish, and greatly appreciate the arrival of each issue.

(Signed) for CHANCE & HUNT LTD.  
London (21/9/36).

### DIFFERENT FRUIT.

“Who was that peach I saw you out with last night?”

“She wasn't a peach—she was grapefruit.”

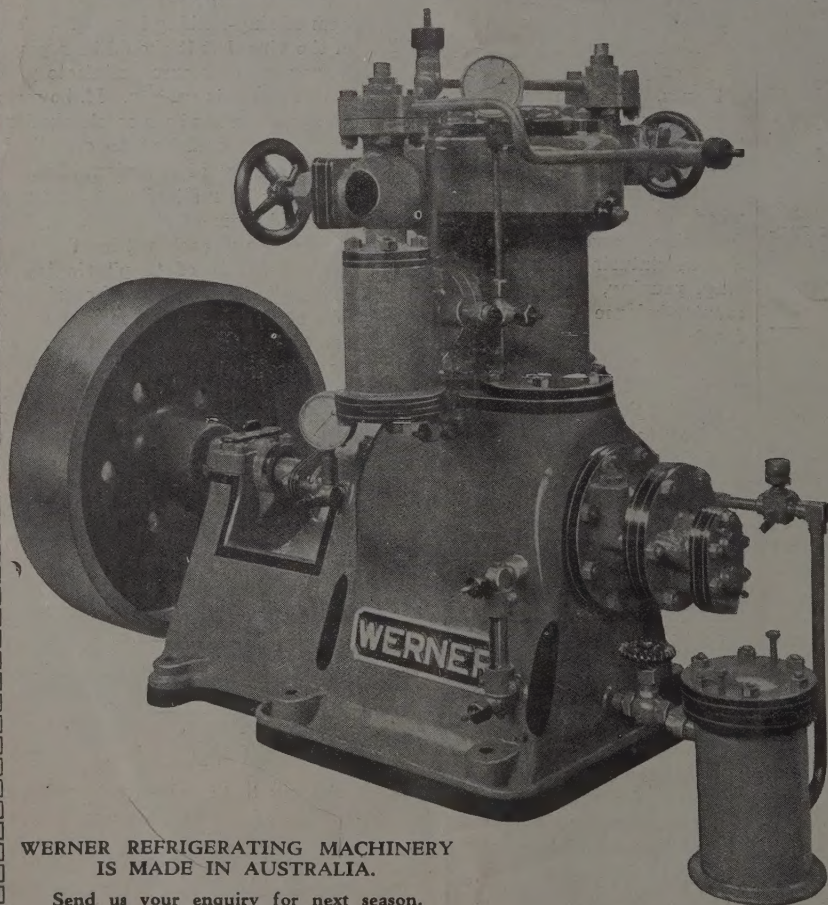
“Why grapefruit?”

“I squeezed her and she hit me the eye.”

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